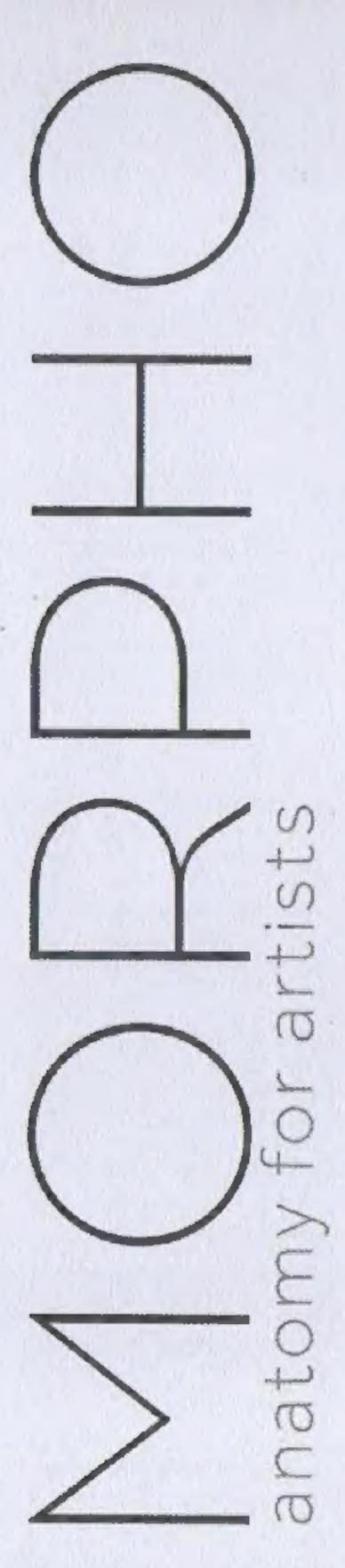


## Muscled bodies

Michel Lauricella



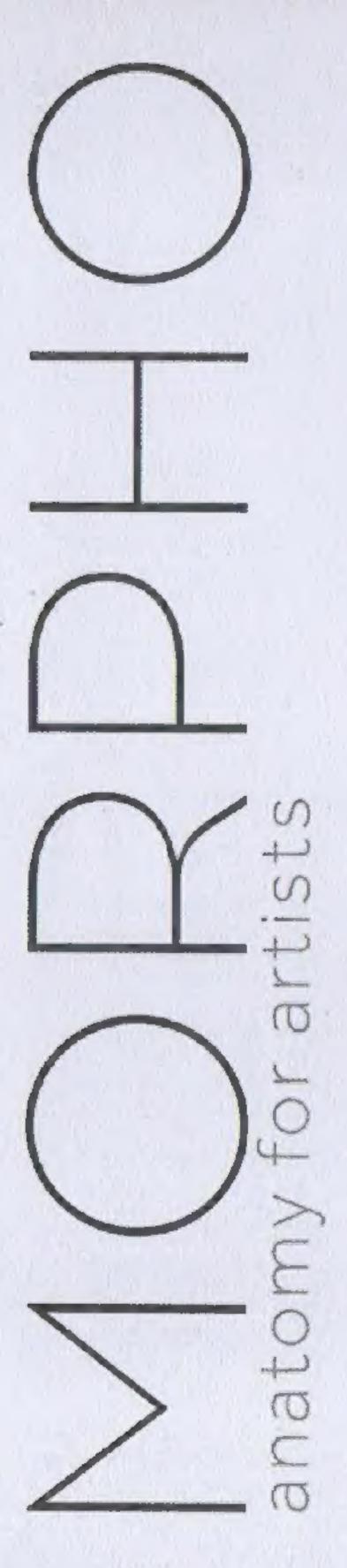




#### Muscled bodies

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rockynook



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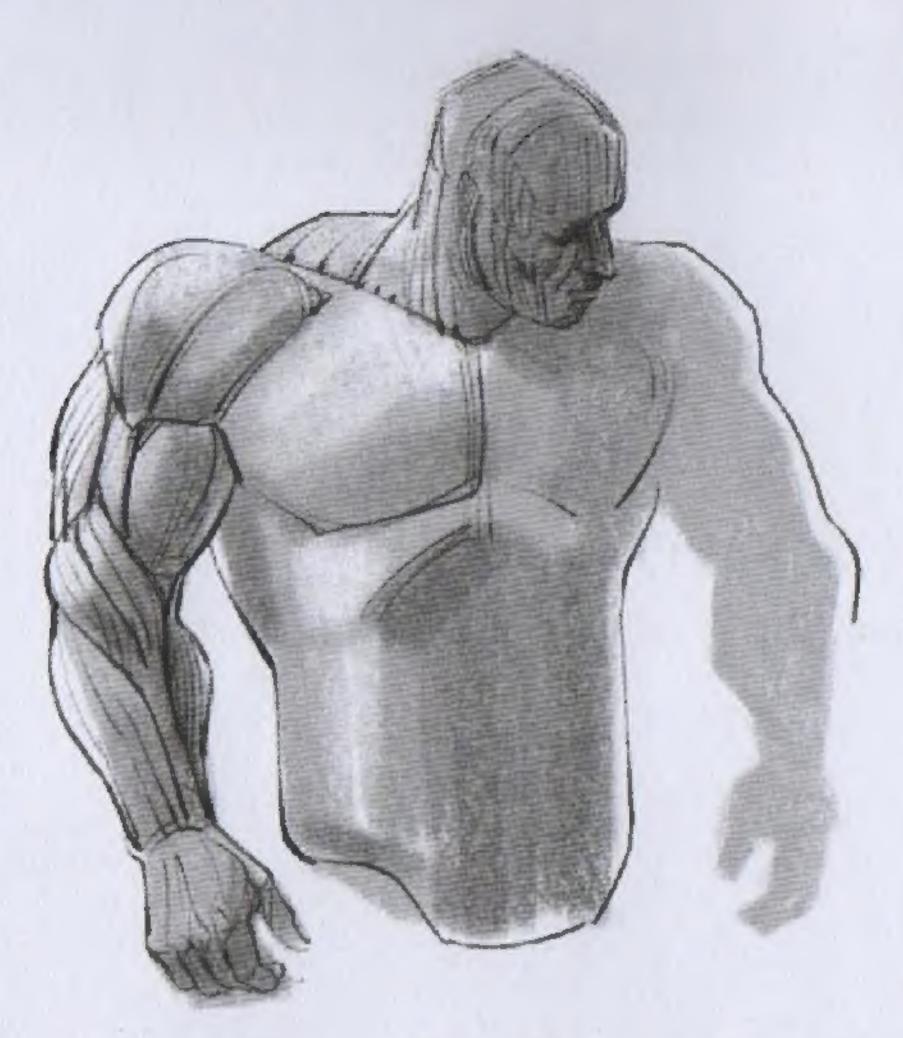
#### foreword

The aesthetics of muscular bodies have been strongly anchored in our culture since ancient times. The physiques of the heroes of Greco-Roman mythology can be found today in an exaggerated form in the representations of superheroes and superheroines that we find in comics and graphic novels, animated movies, live-action movies, and video games. Bodybuilding athletes sculpt their bodies like a work of art, and here we offer a repertoire of ideal forms to be used in this type of representation.

In recent decades, the canonical shapes of bodybuilding have rapidly evolved, leading bodies into an incredible muscular one-upmanship. During competitions, athletes are separated by sex, and then into categories of weight and age. Some of the poses that you will find in these pages are required by the discipline. Most of the drawings presented here are based on photographs of champions in the various categories, which value an extraordinary development of muscle mass, thus deviating from the "classical" and more natural ideals. The path I have taken here is to choose the most excessively developed shapes in order to better meet the needs of drawing.

Superheroes and superheroines in every genre are generally represented as fighting against characters who are every bit as muscled as they are!

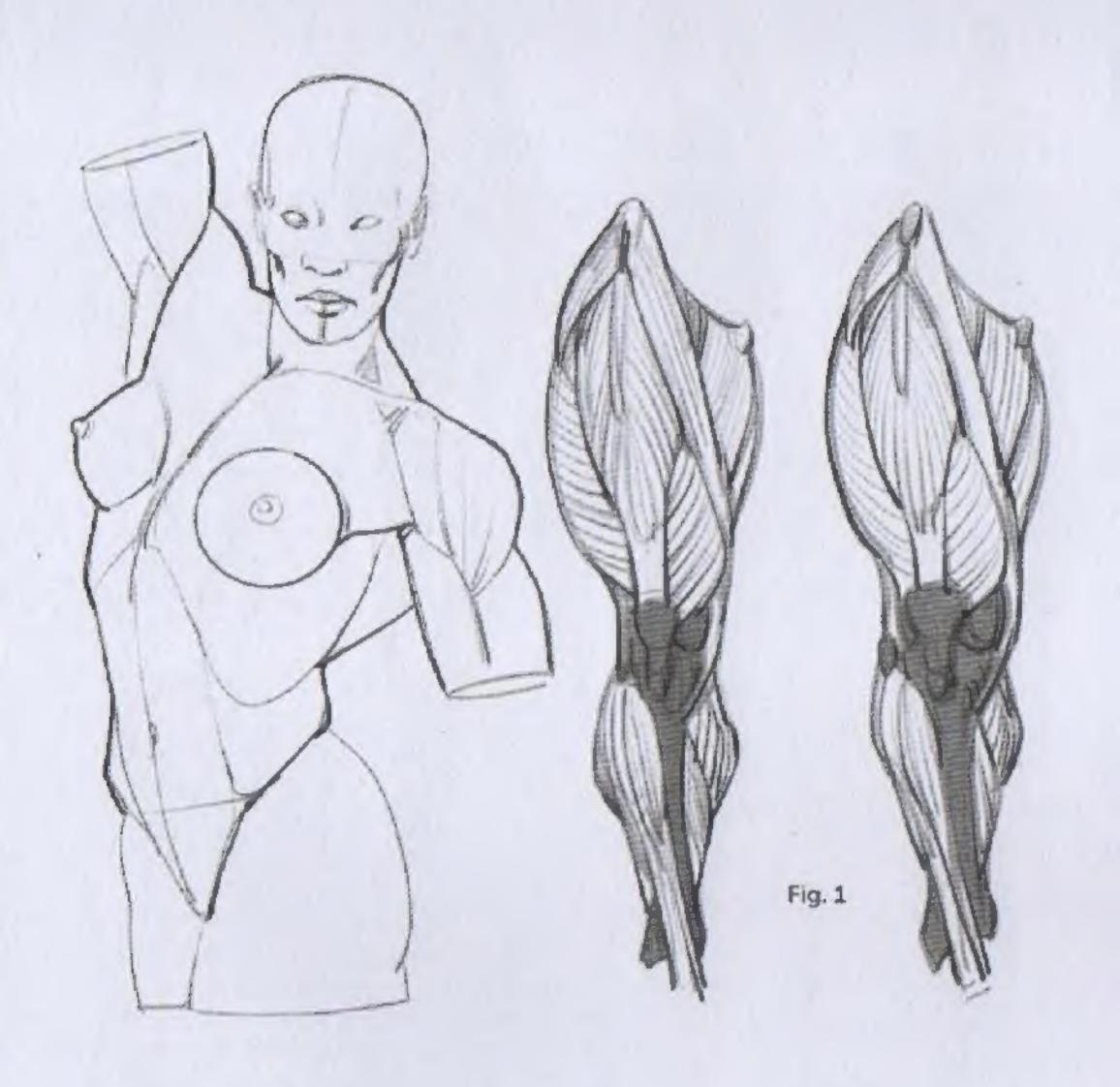
In the preparation for bodybuilding competitions, we can distinguish a phase of muscle mass gain (through physical training and caloric intake), followed by a cutting phase (eliminating as much fat as possible). At that point the skin looks as though it is glued to the muscles, and the athletes take on the appearance of a muscled écorché figure. The bodies become veritable anatomical treatises, highly readable. The muscles stand out clearly from each other, their fibers emerge, and the direction they point in shows us their function. On the other hand, it is true that the skeleton is less discernible and that many of the bone landmarks that we are used to drawing in relief are now found at the bottom of depressions, dimples, or grooves. The absence of fat also erases differences between individuals and between the sexes. Many of the drawings presented in this volume were based on female athletes: because their bodies have been broken down into their component parts for our purposes here, however, that will not always be obvious.



#### introduction

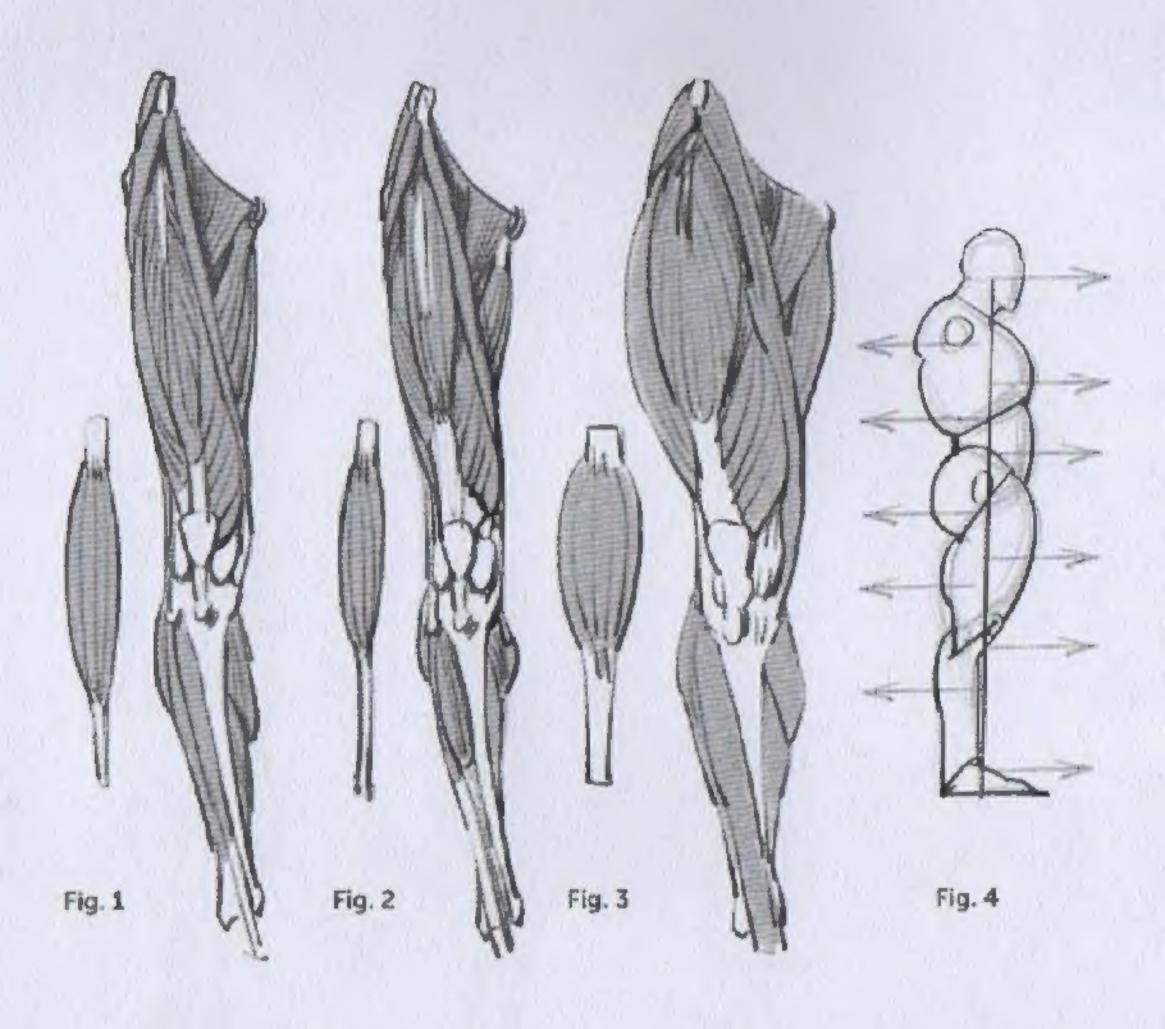
I reproduce, in this introduction, the presentation of the various kinds of muscles. Over the pages of this book, you'll see some of the drawings and diagrams that I created for the book Joint Forms and Muscular Functions in this series, which will help you to understand the action of the various muscles that are presented here as almost invariably hypertrophied and in the midst of exertion, as they appear in training or at competitions. The numbers refer to a summary table, under the flap at

the very end of the book. This numbering also corresponds to the one that is used for the title mentioned above so that you can refer to it as needed (that book also details the insertions and muscle functions). I have also slipped in, at the end of this introduction, some of the drawings of veins from the book Hands and Feet. These illustrative plates are highly relevant here because the efforts imposed by the discipline of bodybuilding also strongly develop the venous network.



In increasing muscle volume, you will also be tempted to thicken the skeletal frame. But the skeleton cannot keep up with the spectacular developments of the musculature in the same proportions, and your muscular characters can very well continue to maintain delicate bones and joints, or even to gain them by contrast (Fig. 1). The body shapes

that have been adapted and developed for the sake of a variety of athletic challenges are the proof of that. Of course, bodies that are endowed with a strong skeletal framework will be very well adapted to this muscular load, as well as to the sustained work required for this kind of gain in mass, especially for movements that go in the direction of weightlifting.

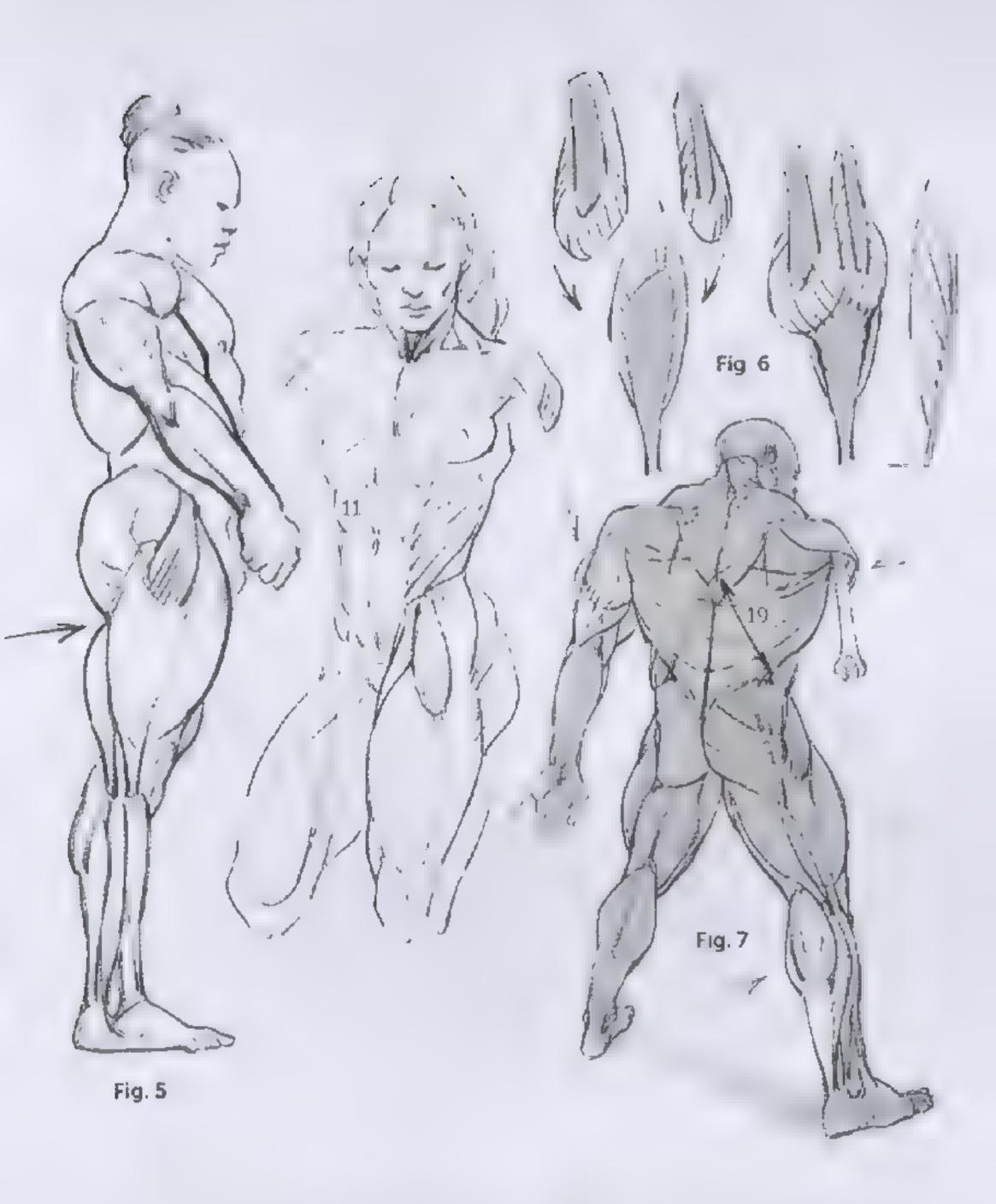


Types of muscles

The proportion of tendon fibers to muscle fibers can vary from one muscle to the next, and for the same muscle from one person to the next. A short muscle with a long tendon will contract more quickly, but a long muscle will have greater flexibility and range. Thus, simply by playing with this one parameter, you can make a character's silhouette either more flexible or tenser (Figs. 1 and 2), What makes one muscle more powerful than another is its thickness, along with the number of fibers involved in a given insertion (Fig. 3).

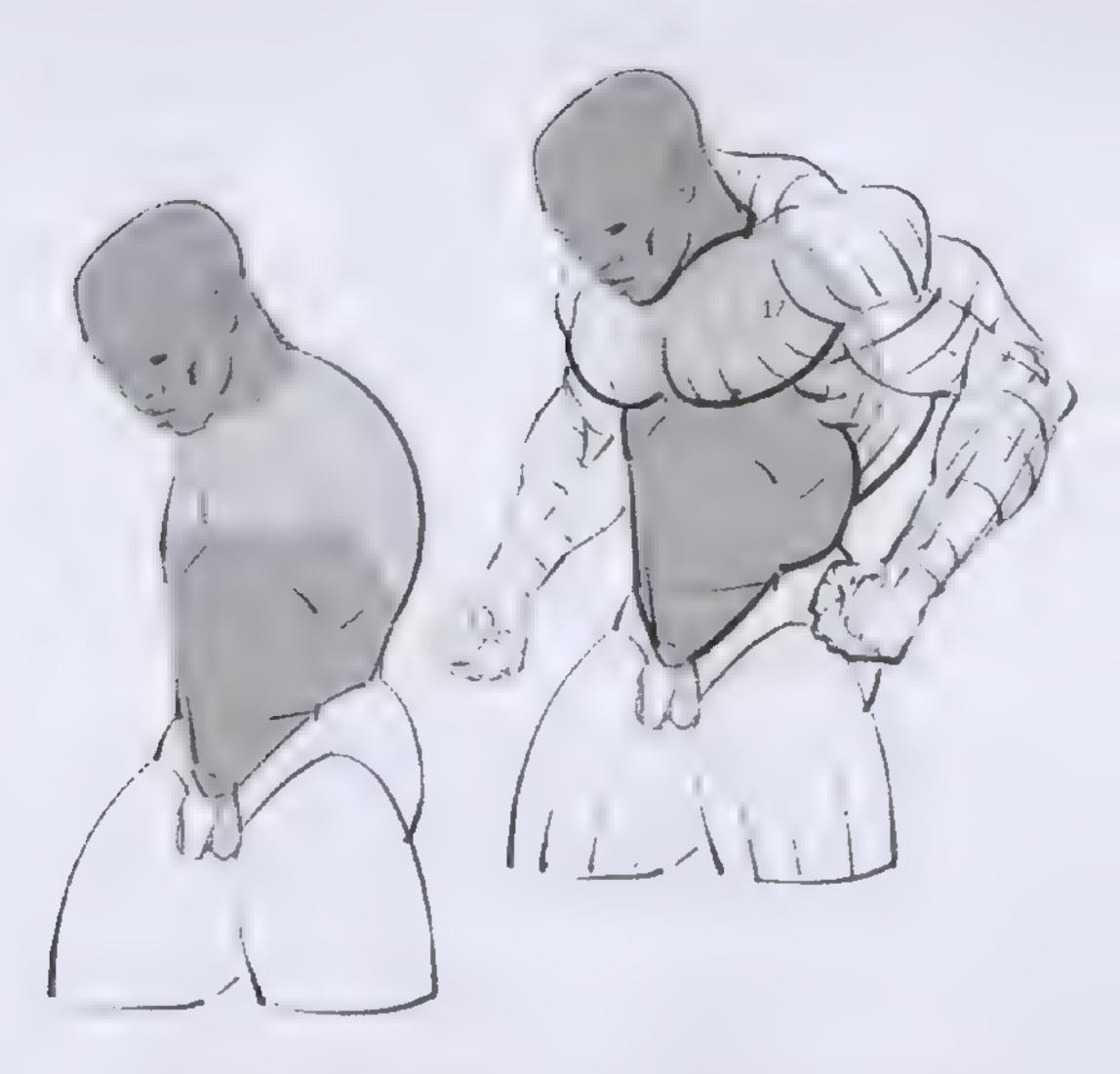
Increasing muscle volumes will also reinforce curves (difference in contours), the dynamic balance of the various segments (convexities, Fig. 4), and the depressions at the sites of muscle attachments (concavities, Fig. 5).

These fibers are connected together in bundles called fasciae. Several fasciae grouped together around one tendon form a biceps (2 fasciae), triceps (3 fasciae, Figs. 6 and 7), or a quadriceps (4 fasciae), which gives the entire combination that much more strength. Tendons can sheathe a muscle and/or slip inside another muscle.



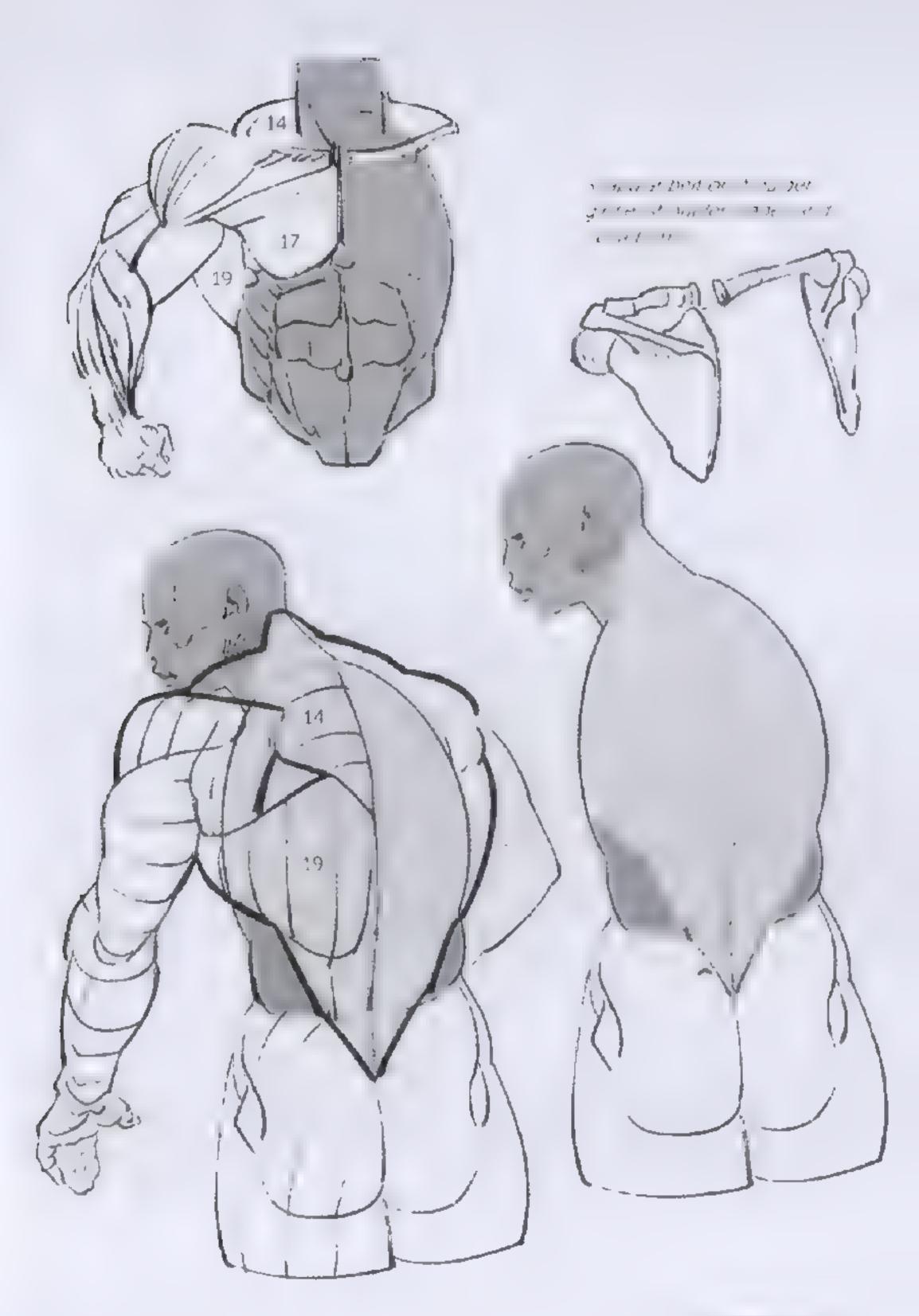
A pinnate (or feather-shaped) structure (Fig. 6) results in a muscle with a large number of short fibers arranged in tiers on the lendon. Superficial muscles can form layers connected to tendon piates (for

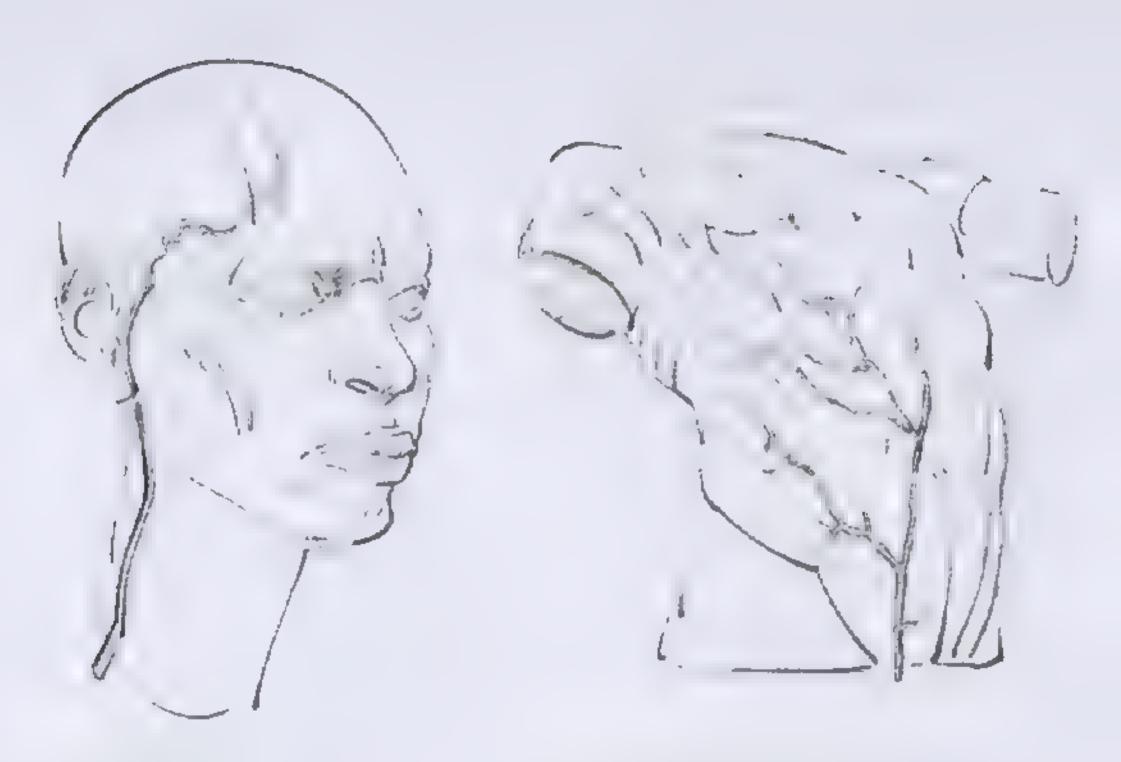
example the latissimus dorsi, 19). Others are broken up by tendinous intersections, which tends to reduce their elasticity (the rectus abdominis commonly called abs, 11).



This book is divided into chapters corresponding to the various regions of the body. Here again, I have chosen, in the section on the torso, only to deal with the musculature that connects the rib cage to the pelvis from a mechanical standpoint, we can count the pectorals (17), the trapezoids (14), and the latissimus dorsi (19), which predominantly participate in all of the movements of arm lifting and lowering, among the muscles of the upper limb. We will see that they are not the only ones

that connect the limb to the torso by way of the shoulder blades and collarbones, which can therefore, by the same reasoning process, be considered as the first bones of the upper limb. When the musculature of the upper limb is hyperdeveloped, it thus transforms the silhouette of the torso. This musculature fills in the front and sides of the top of the rib cage and extends, in the back, from the skull to the petvis, thus covering the entire back.





#### The veins

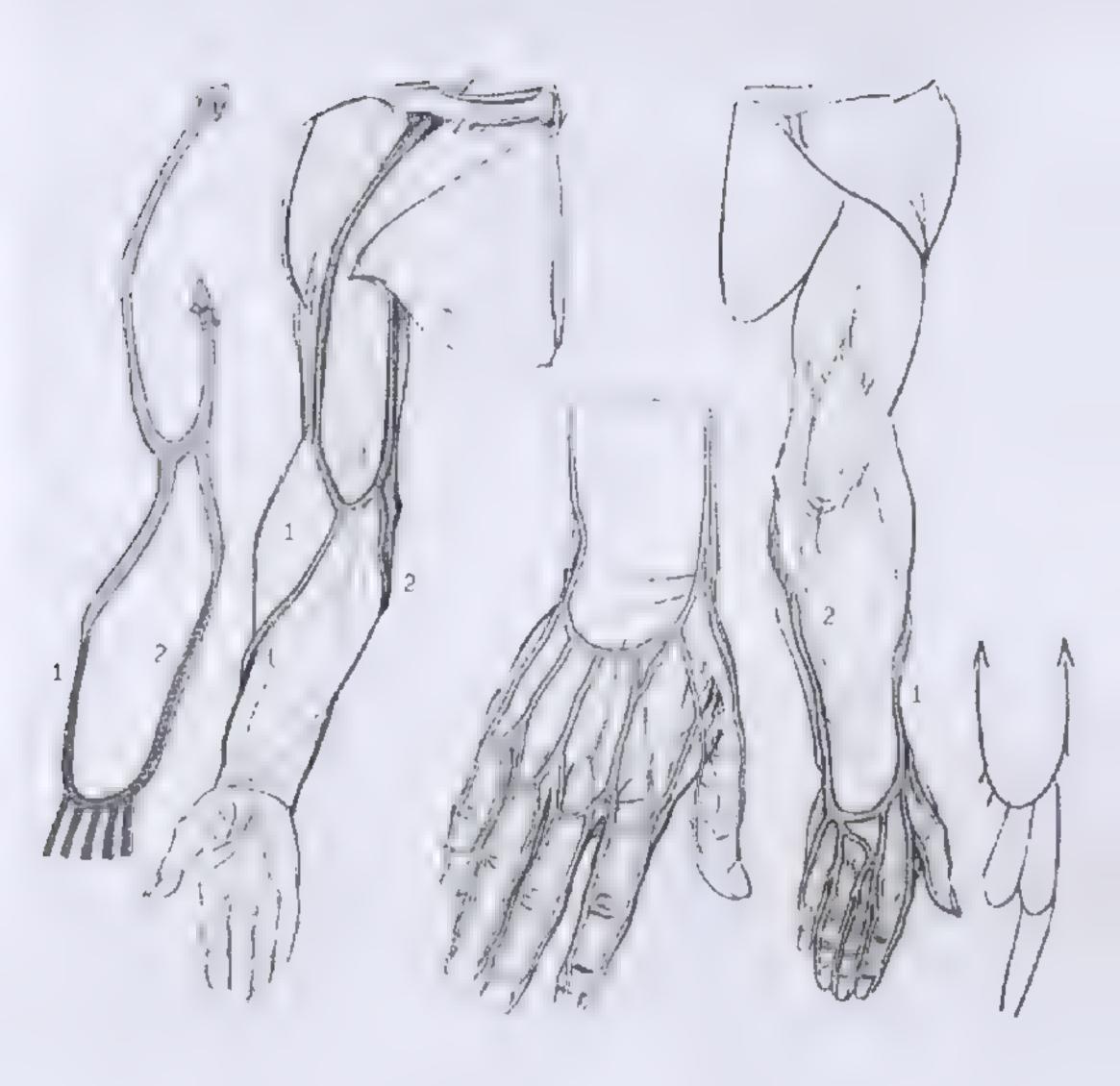
The veins form a complex and seemingly random network. The "canonical" arrangement described here will not be able to coincide exactly with reality; at the very most, we can trace the path of the major veins. Their size is variable, dilating with the influx of blood and becoming larger with regular and sustained exertion. They can take on a knotted appearance, folding back on themselves, and they are often in communication with each other

in the region of the head and the neck, we can see the temporal vein, which cuts across the path of the sternocleidomastoid to Join the external jugular Starting at the corner of the jaw, it slides into the depression behind the collarbone

The integument of the abdomen (see Paul Richer's book, Artistic Anatomy) covers the torso, starting at the lower abdomen, cutting

across the fold of the groin, and then joining the long saphenous vein.

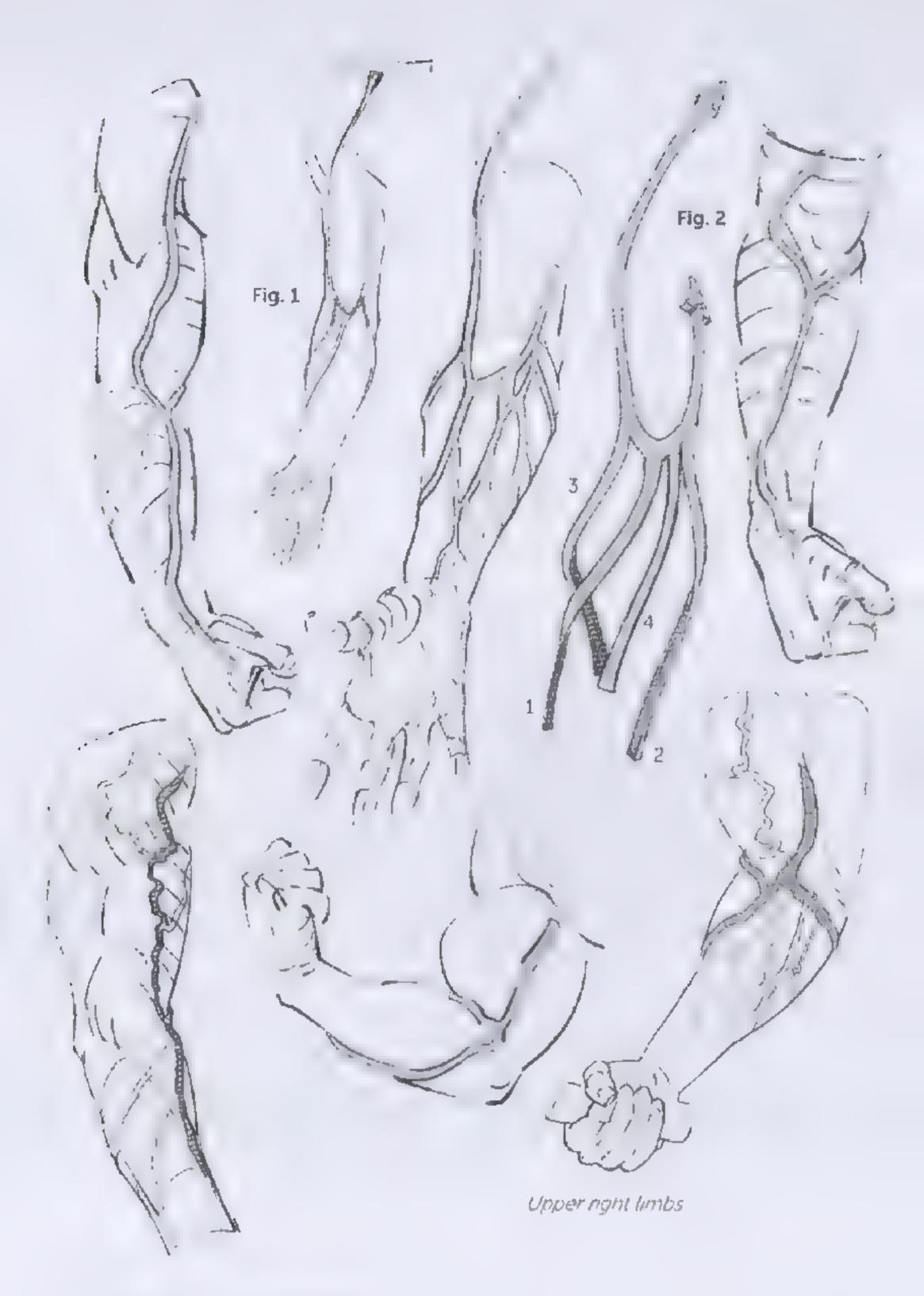
The veins of the upper limb extend from the fingertips and trace a series of arches on the first phalanges, under the heads of the metacarpals. They then meet up again on the back of the hand, where they connect to form an inverted archi-They give rise to two branches that then frame the limb along its entire length reconnecting halfway through at the hotlow of the elbow. then, on the forearm, the rad at vein on the side of the radius (1) and the cubitativem on the side of the ulna (2) continue their ascent, changing their names on either side of the biceps On the inside, the basilic vein disappears into the armpit. On the outside, the cephalic vein slips between the deltoid and the pectoral to disappear into a depression underneath the collarbone



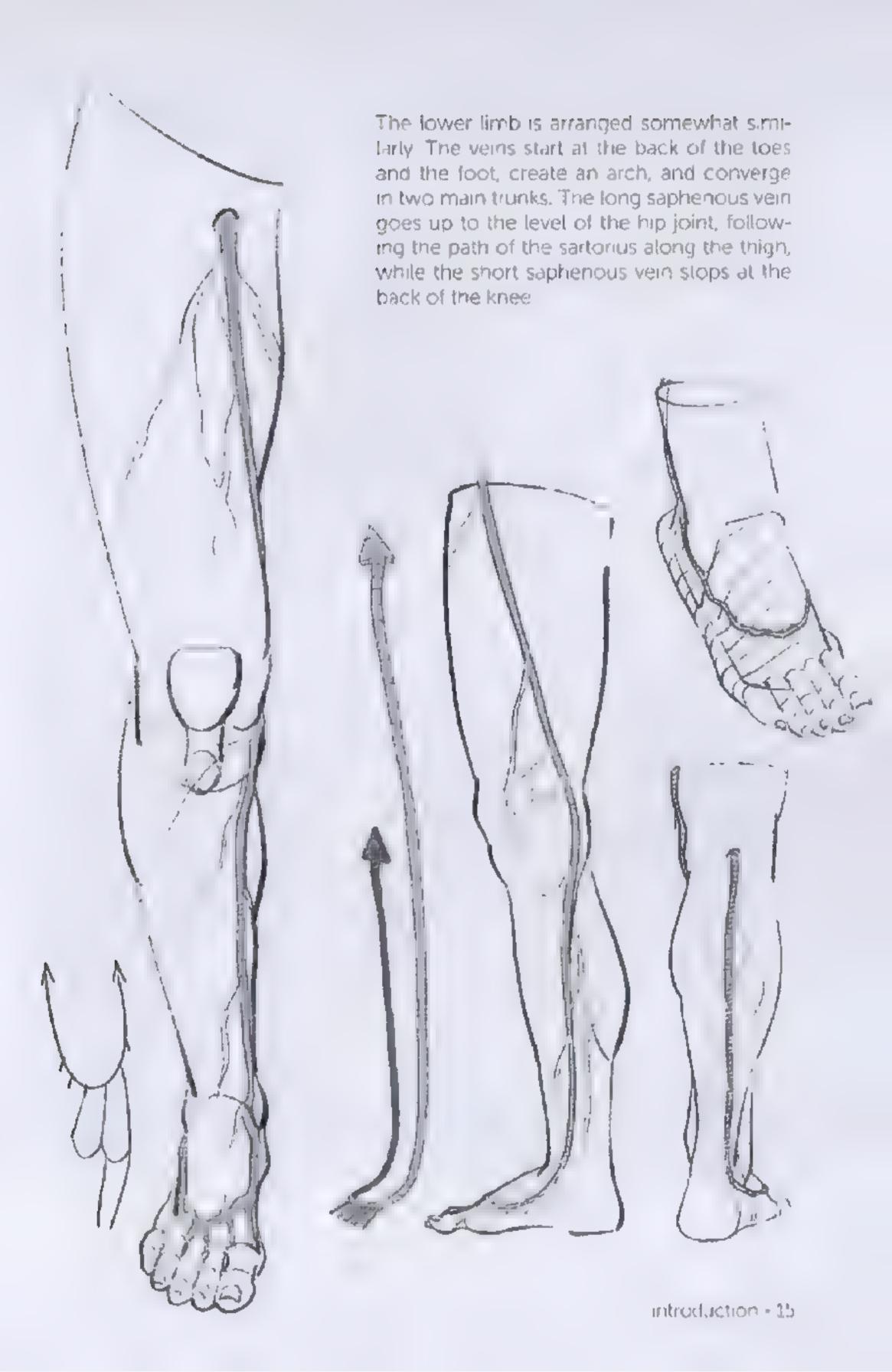
At the beginning, there are a large number of veins and they follow random pathways, as they cumb toward the shoulder their numbers decrease and they become larger and therefore simpler in their appearance. The "classical" version traces a capital M on the inside of the elbow (Fig. 1, next page). At that point, one

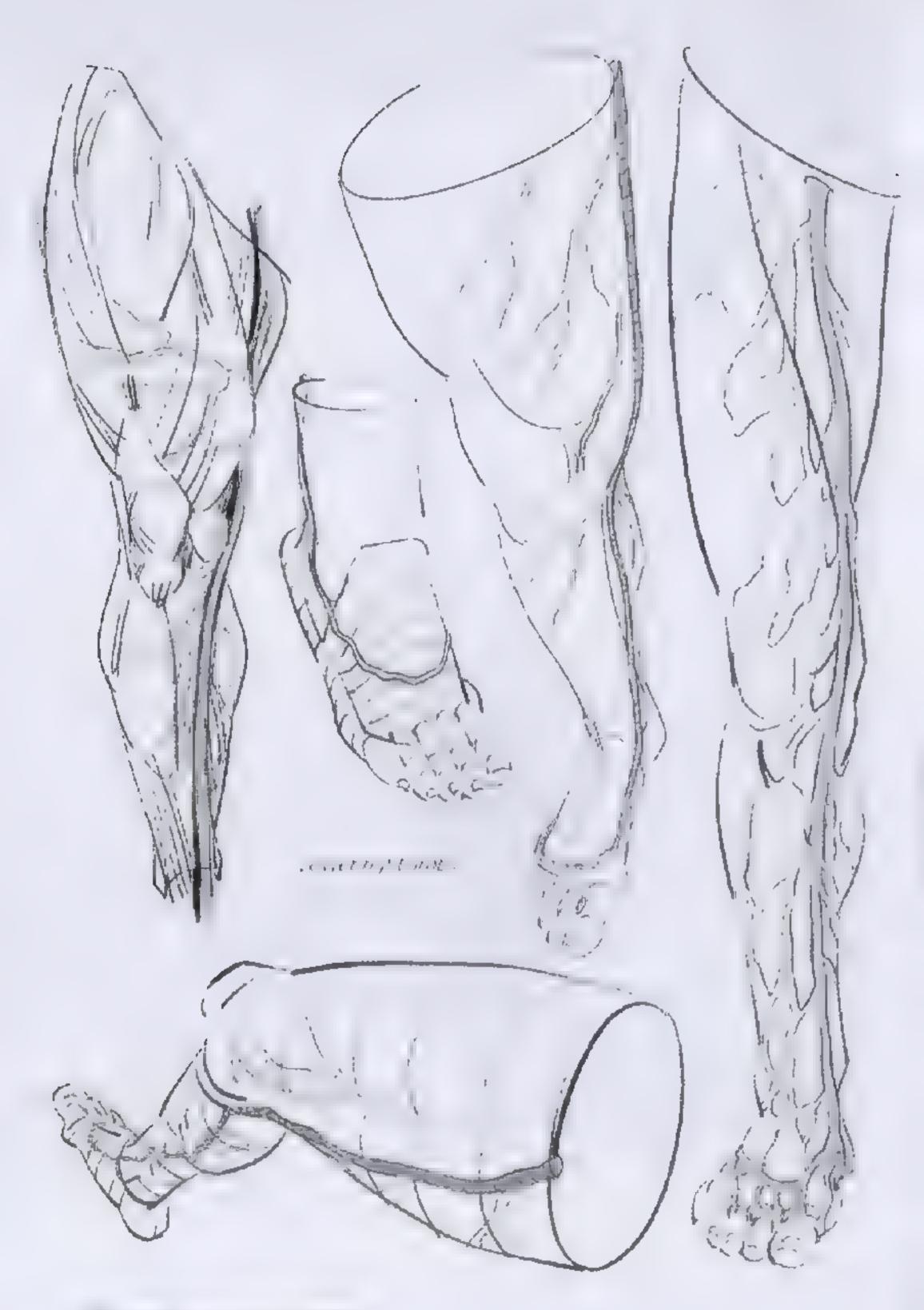
can imagine two more veins connecting to the previous ones, one of them (3, Fig. 2, next page) coming from the back of the forearm and the other (4) from the front of it.

Beginning at the back of the fingers and hand, the veins curl around the sides of the forearm to connect at the front of the elbow



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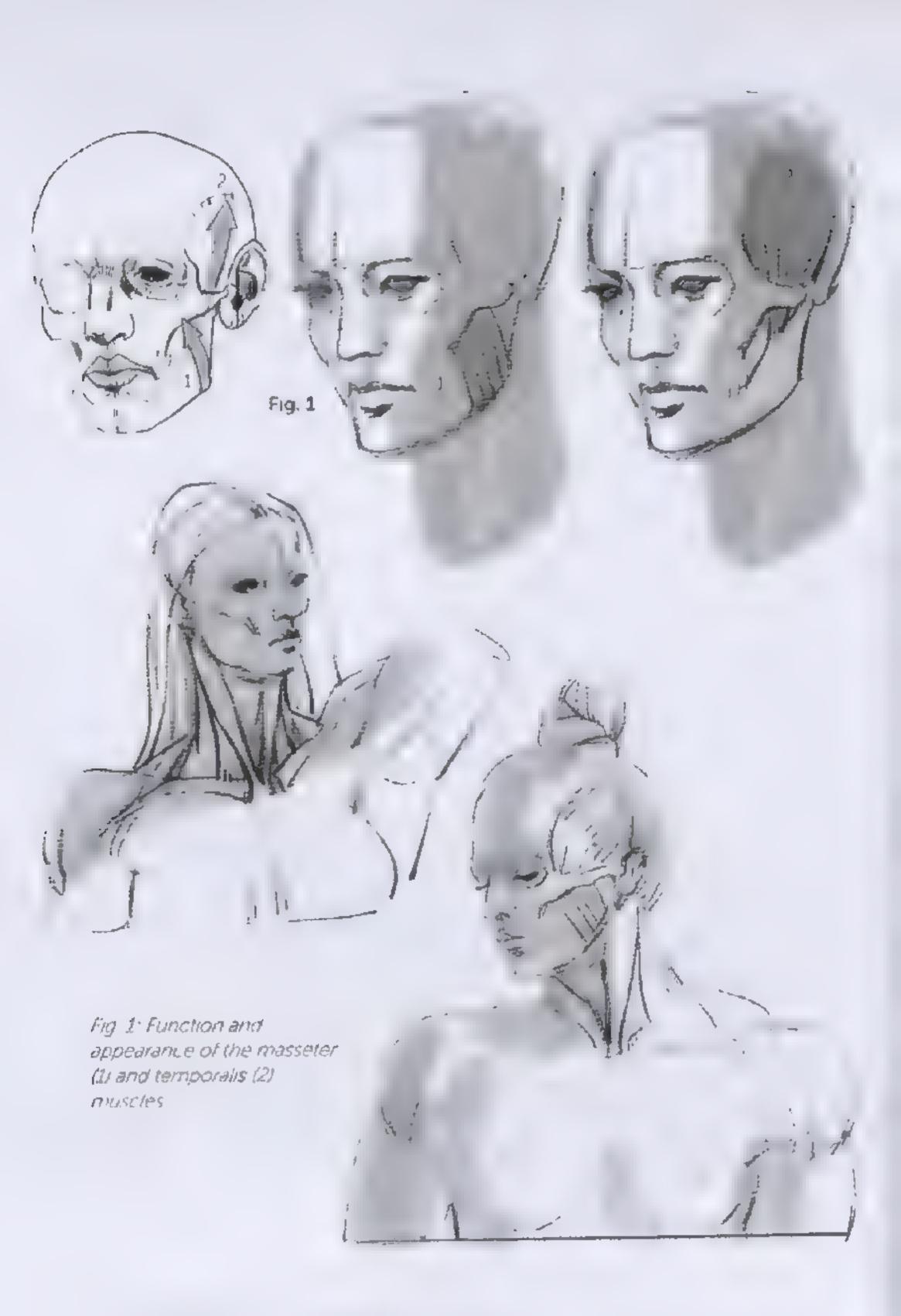


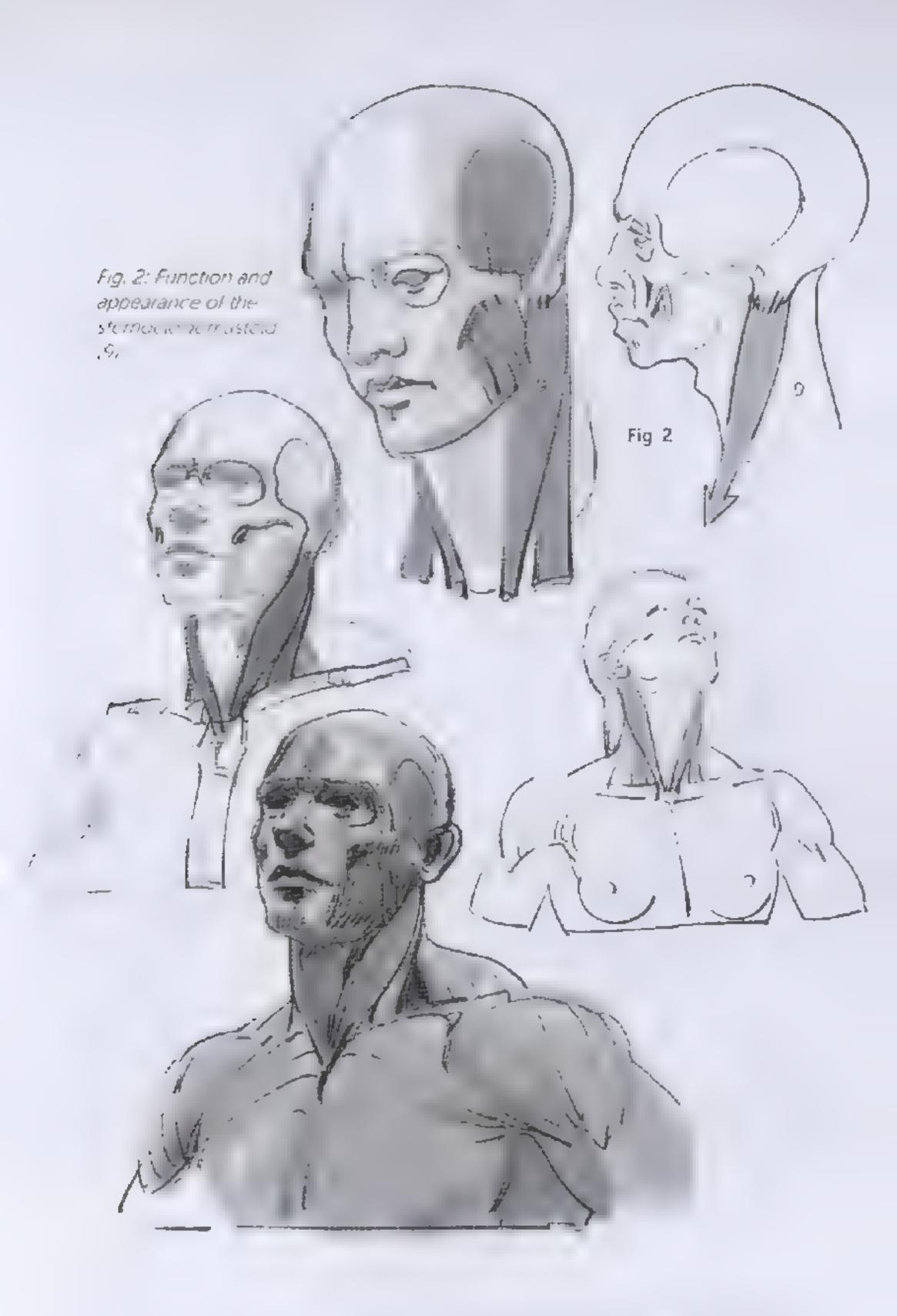


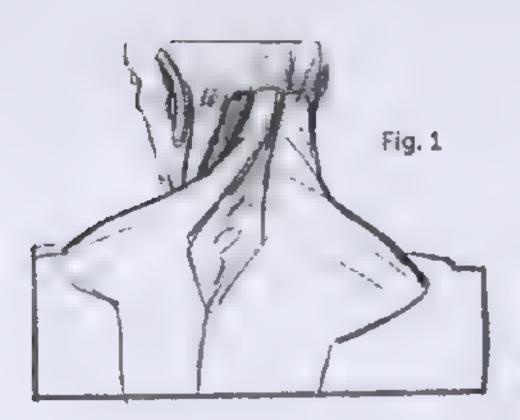
plates



head & neck

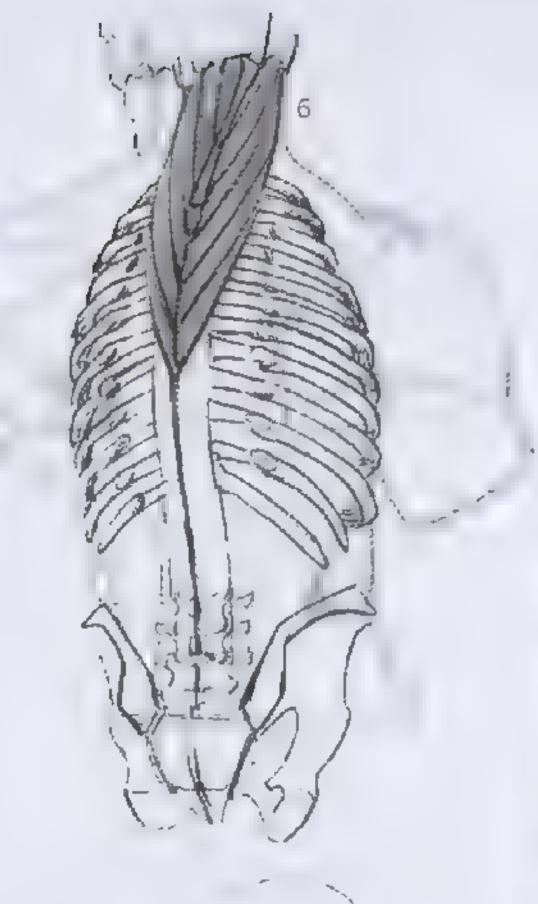


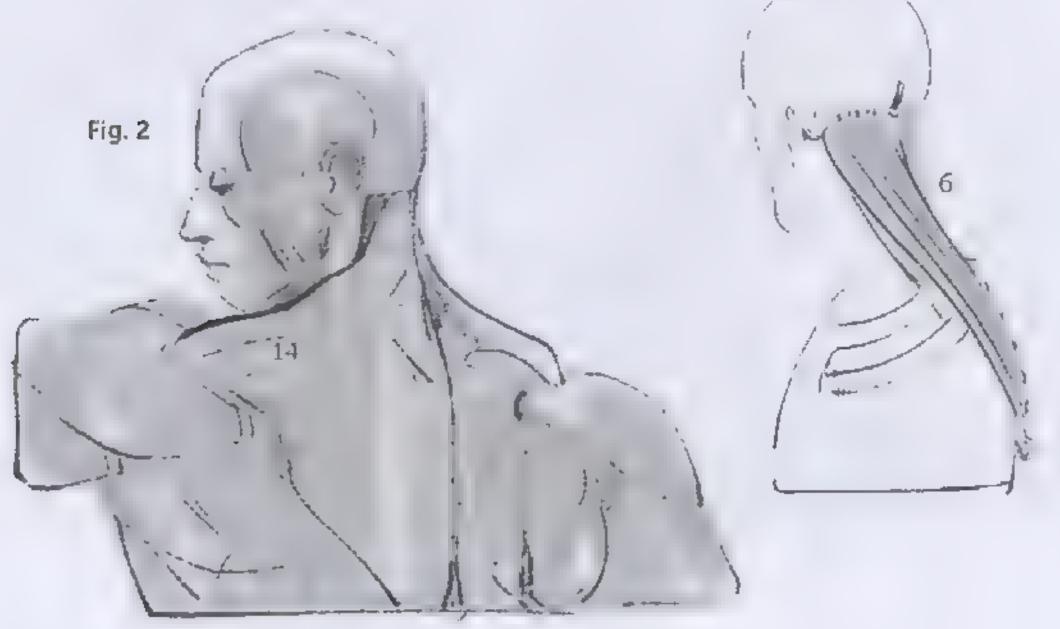


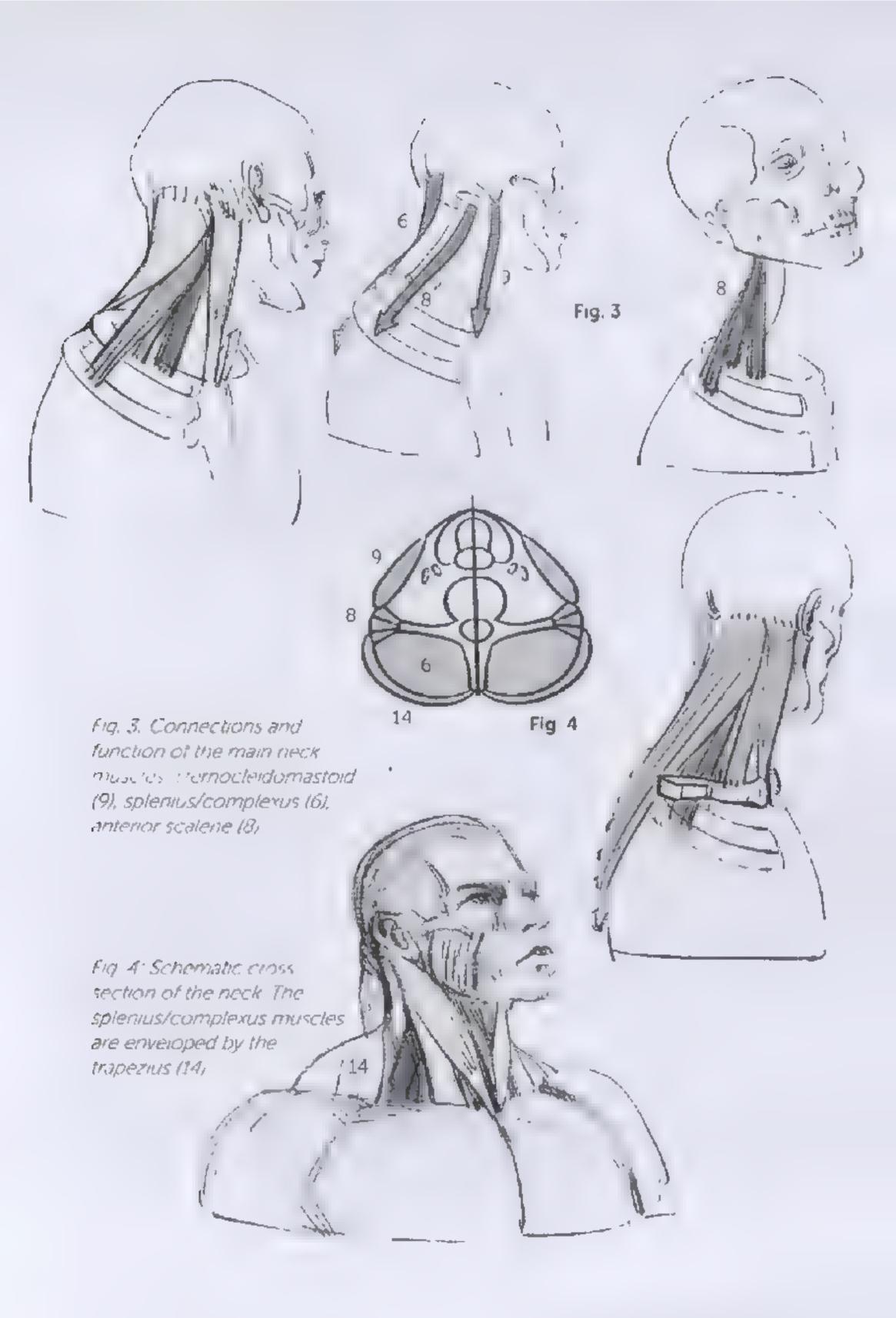


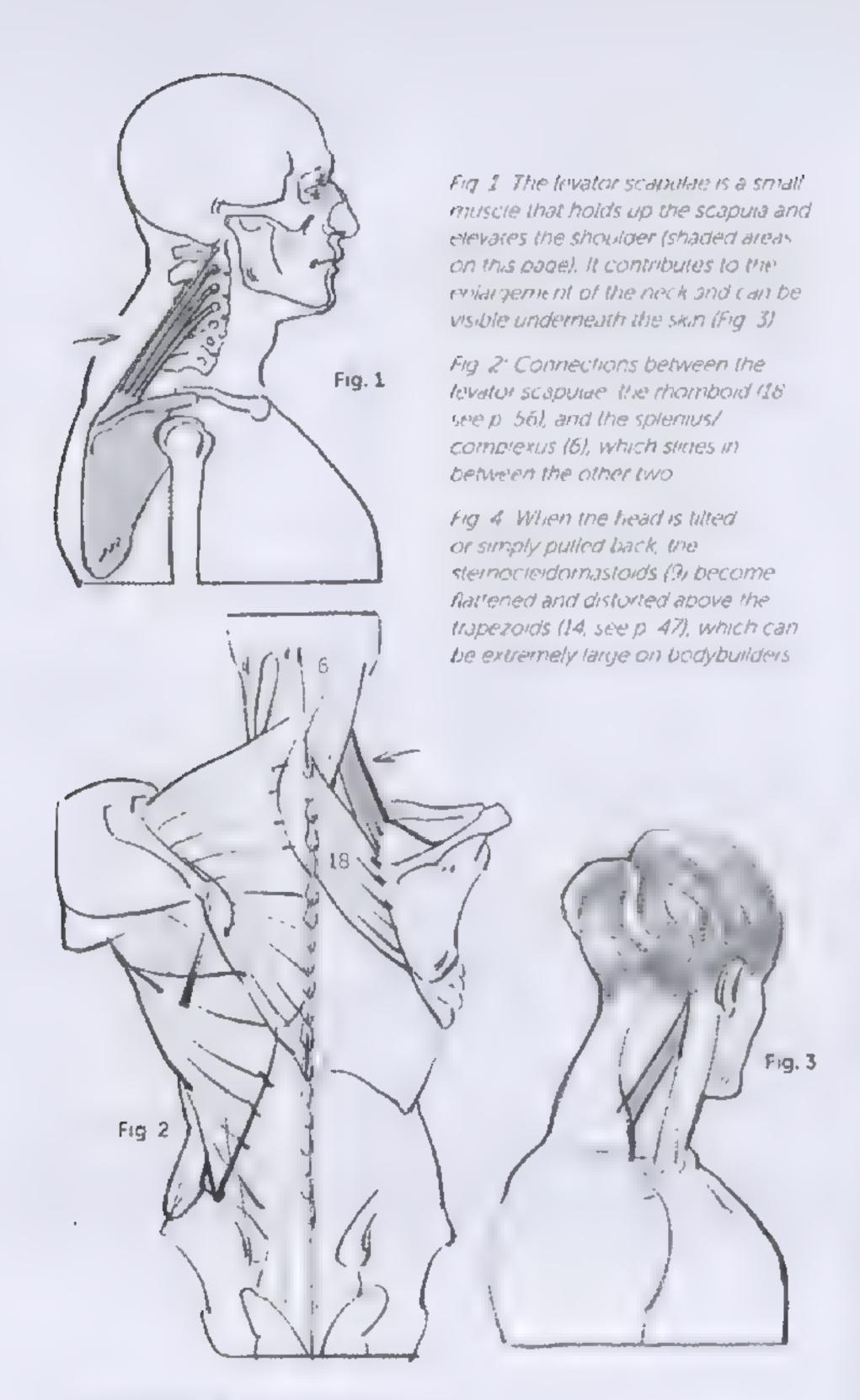
The splenius and complexus muscles are not very visible on the surface of the écorché figure (Figs. 1 and 2, dark gray). However, they are responsible for the width of the back of the neck under the skull.

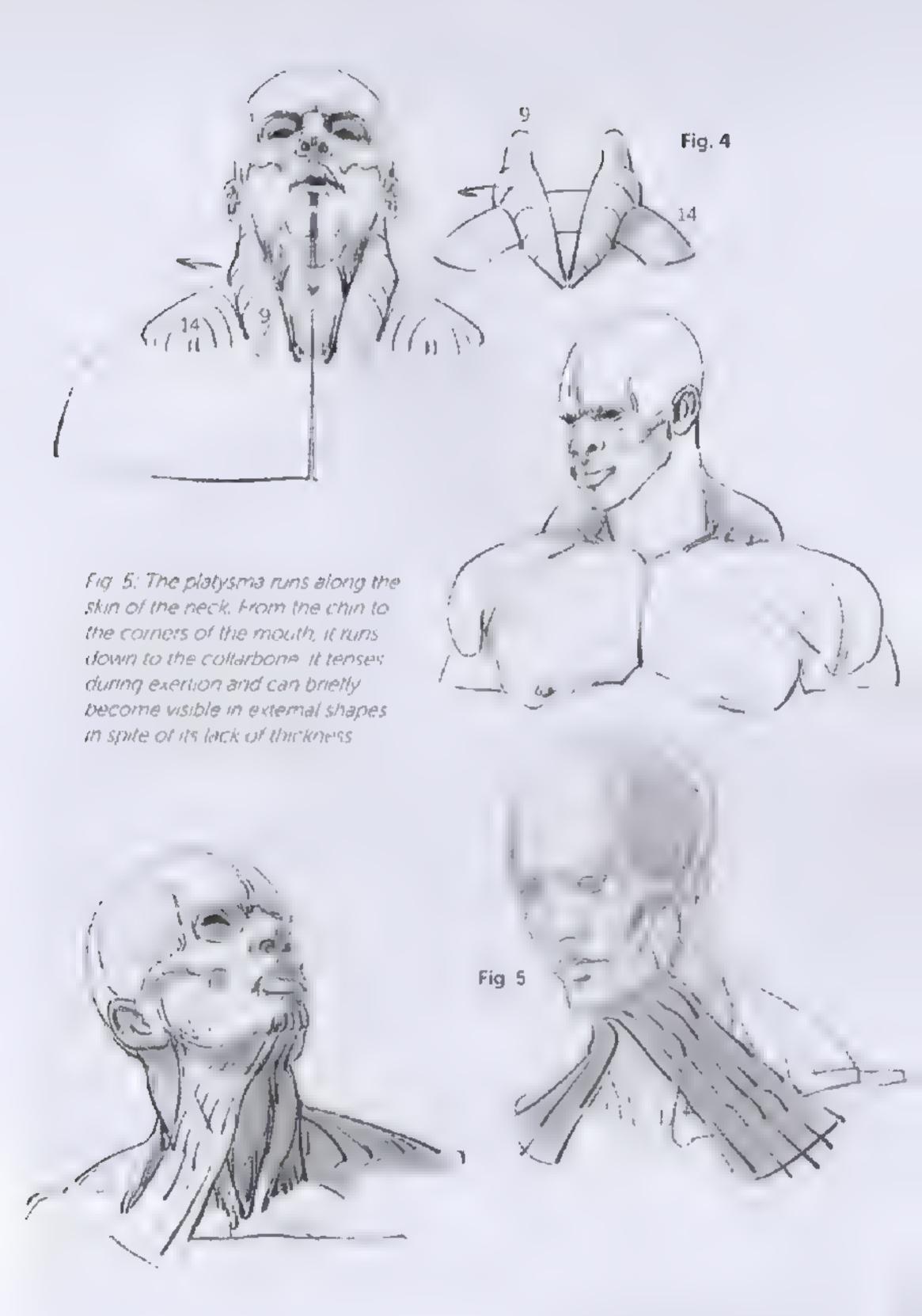
The trapezius (14, see p. 48), which covers them, is at its maximum thickness on the shoulders

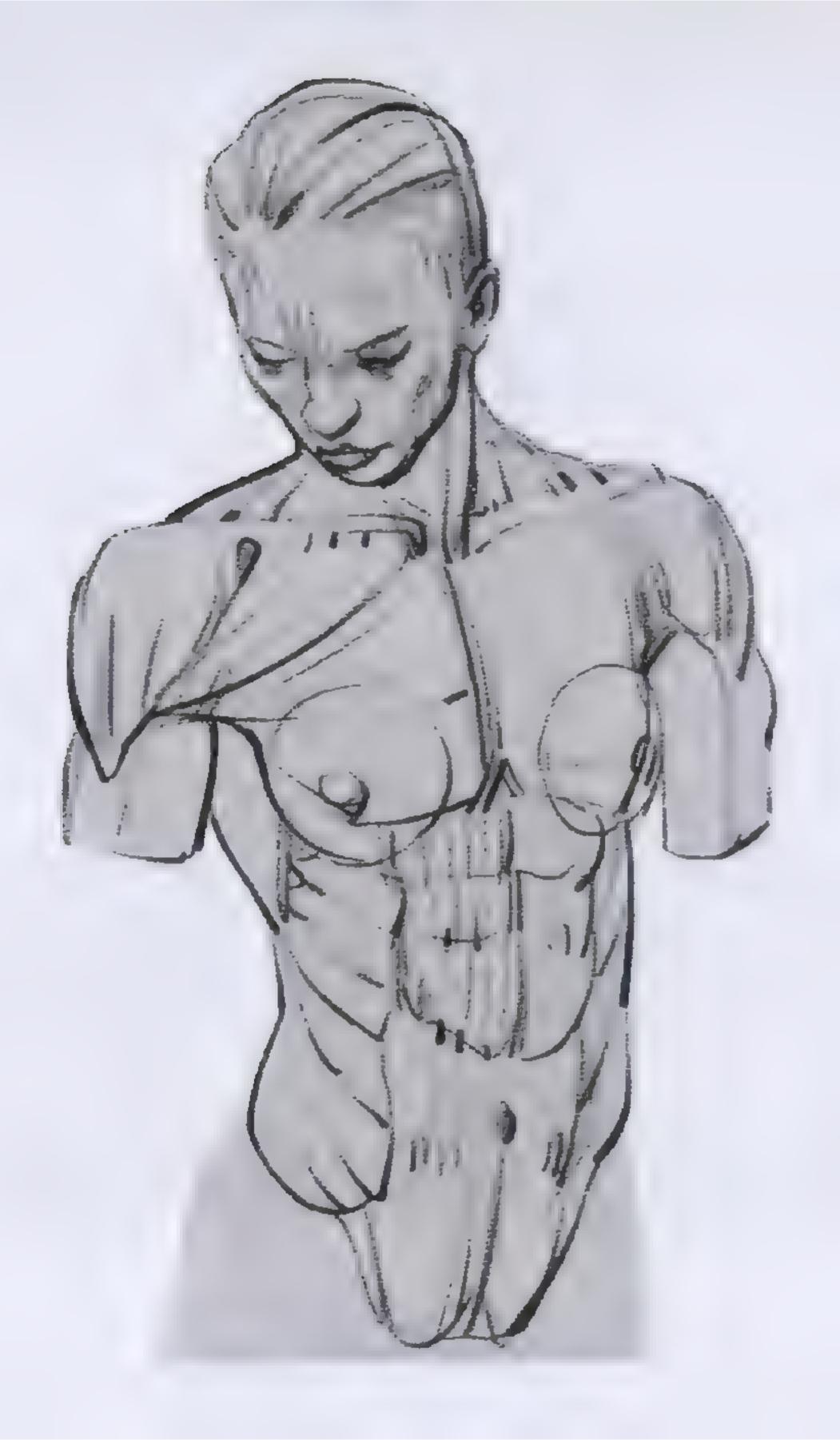




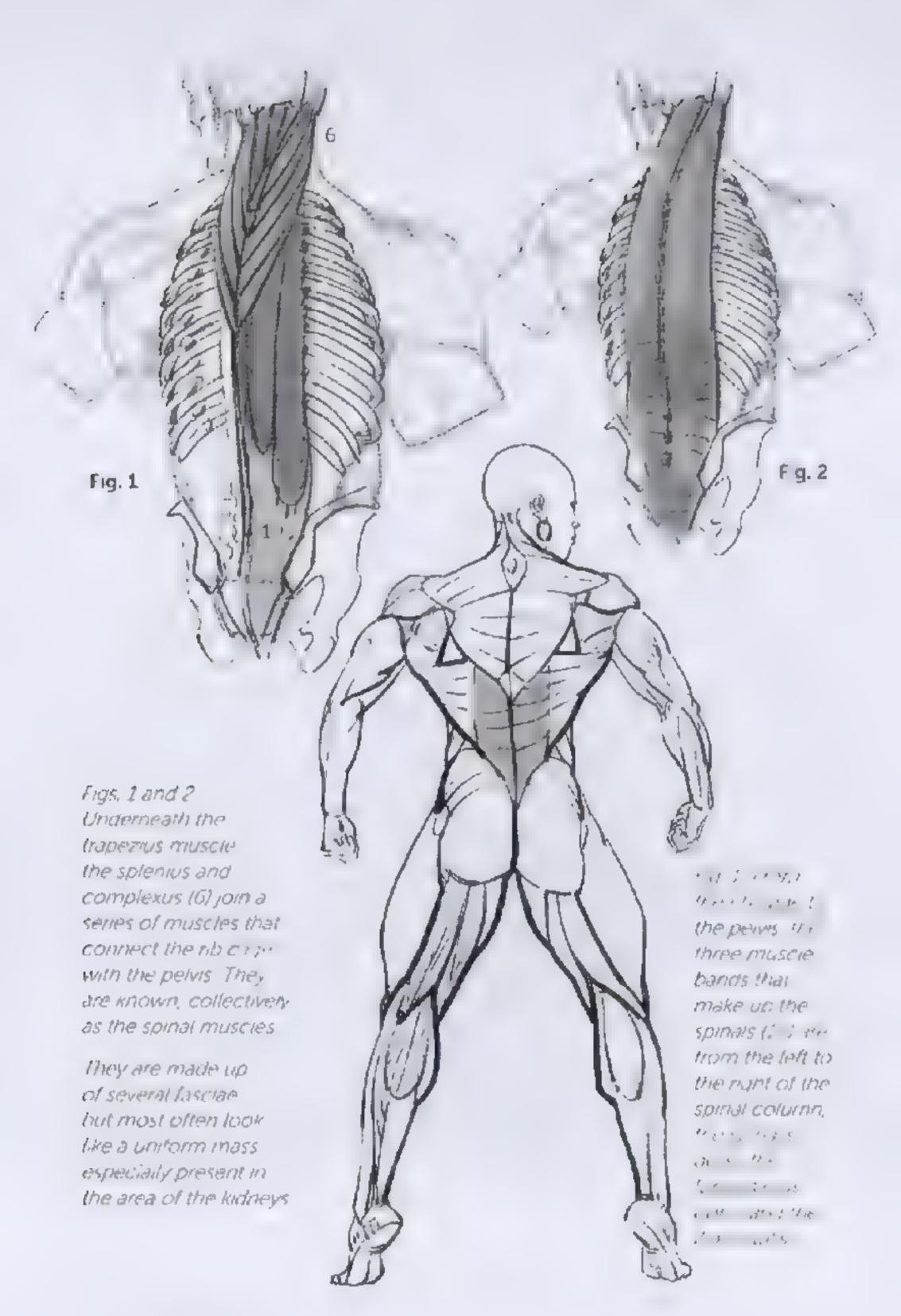


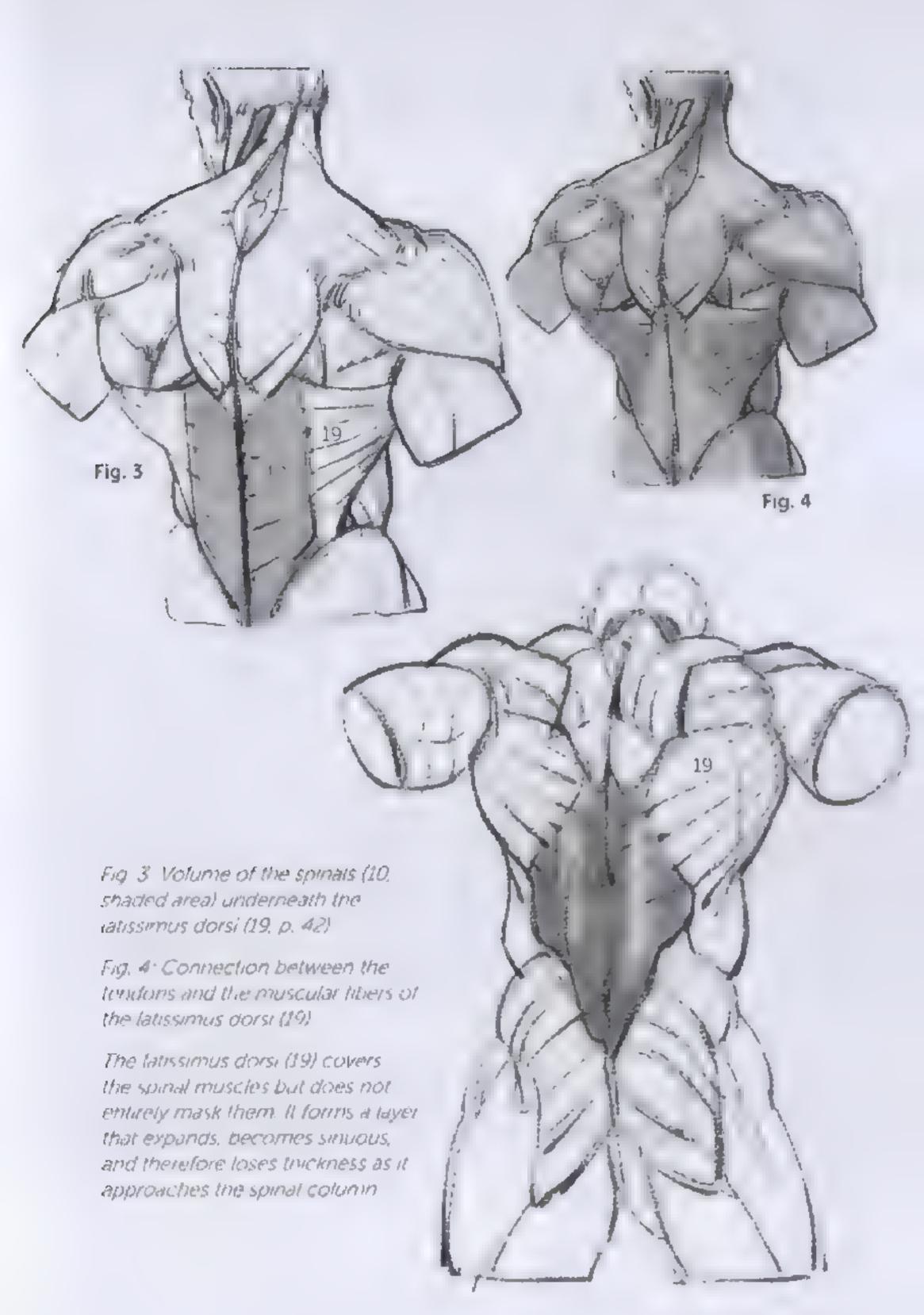


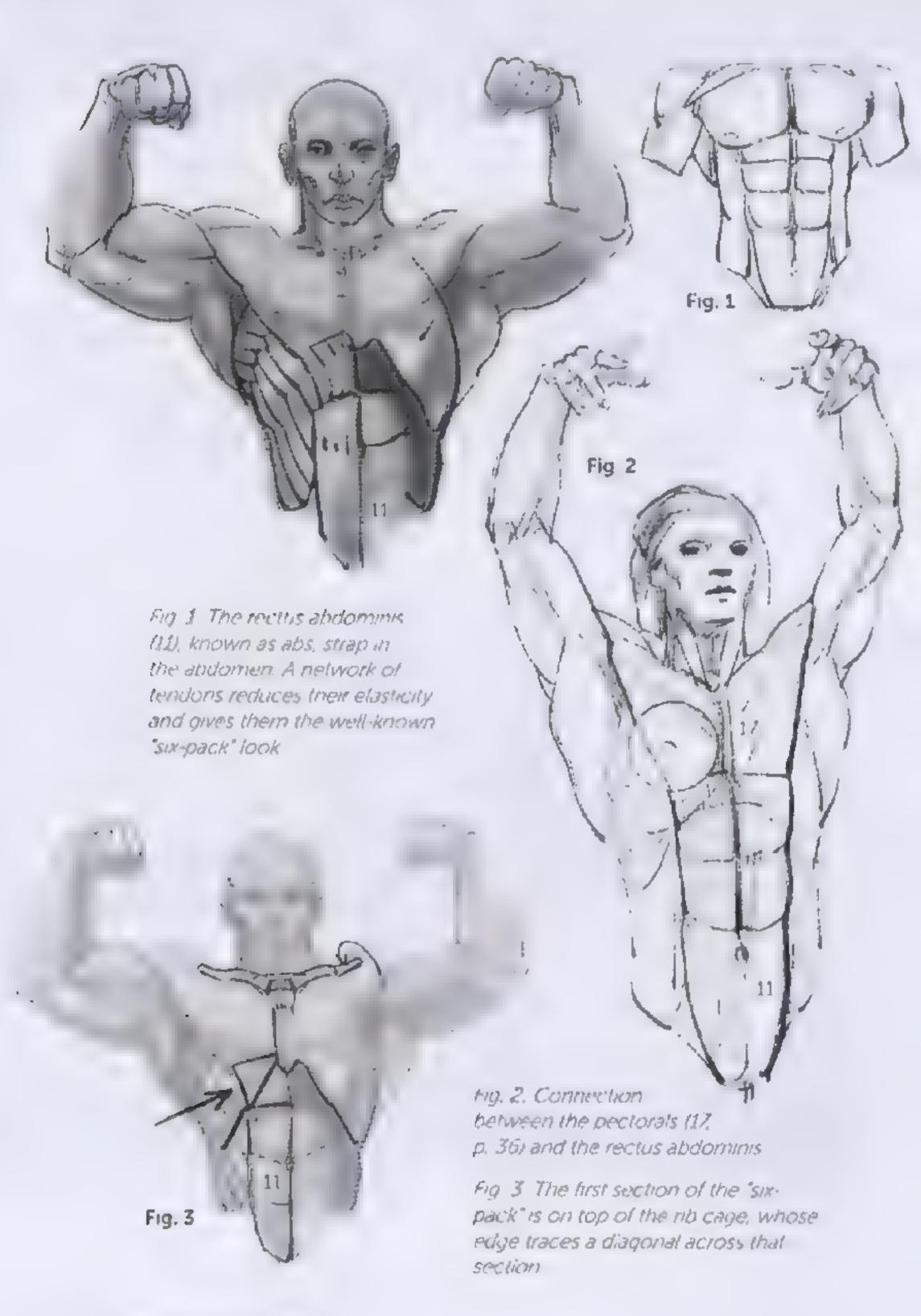


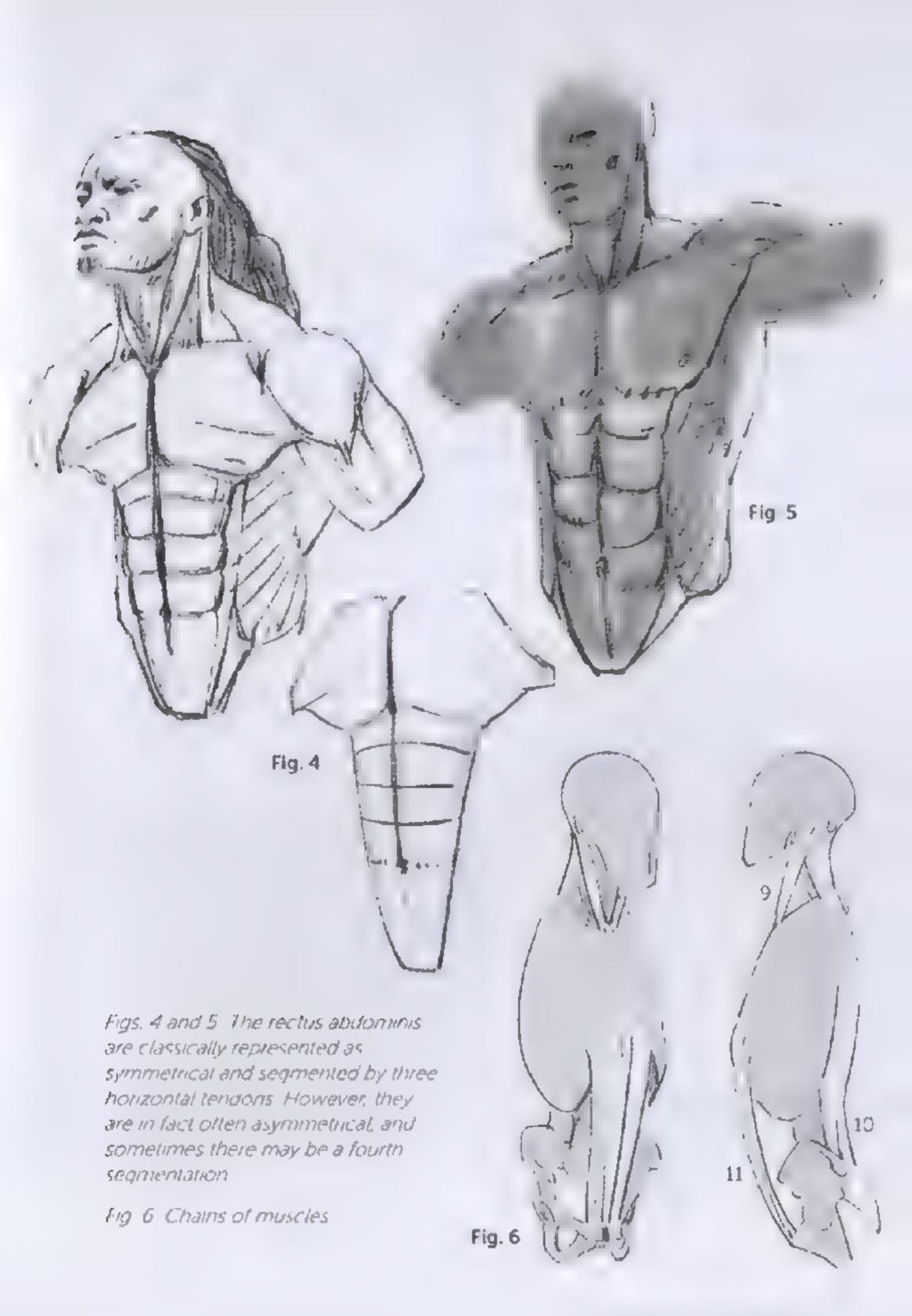


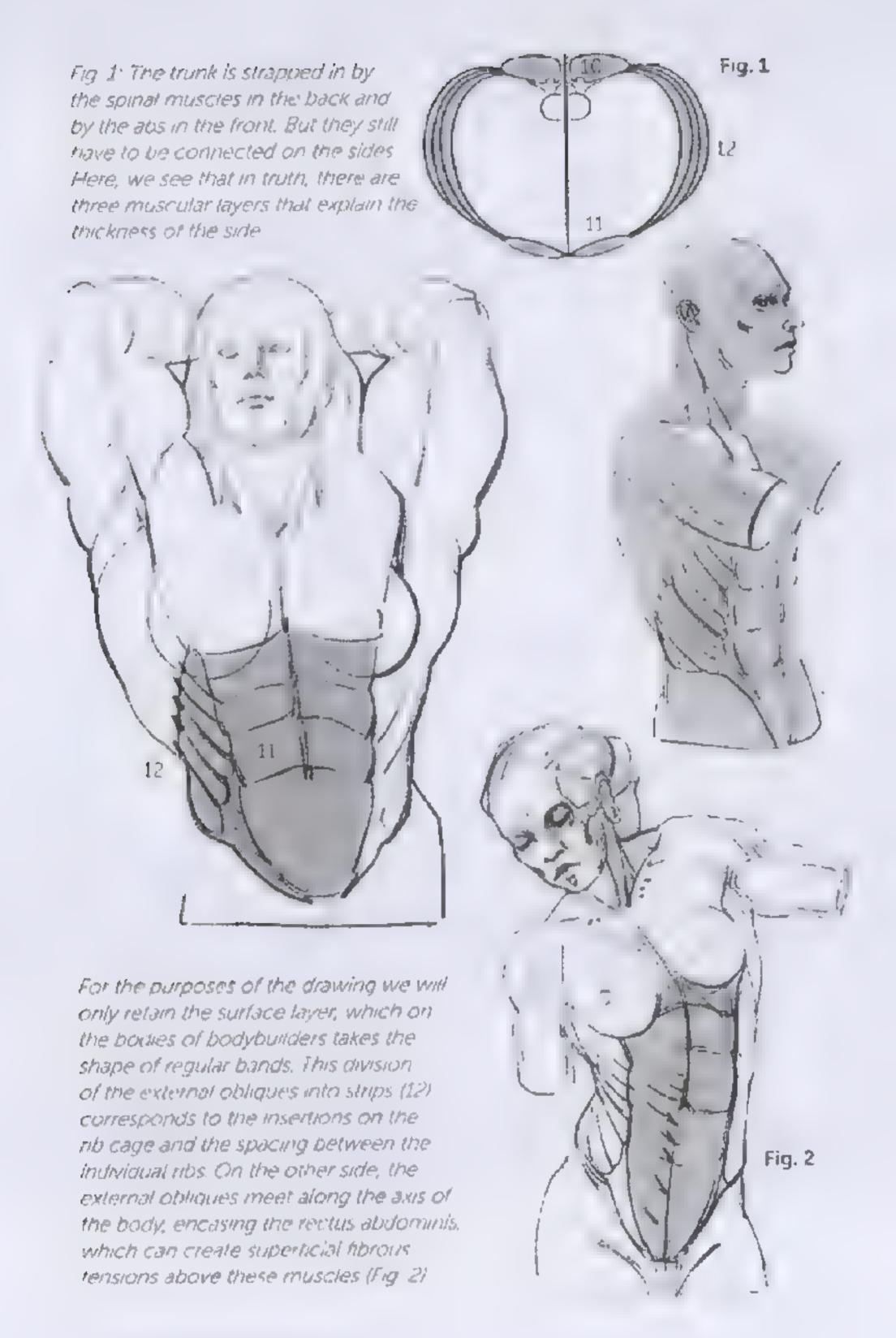
torso

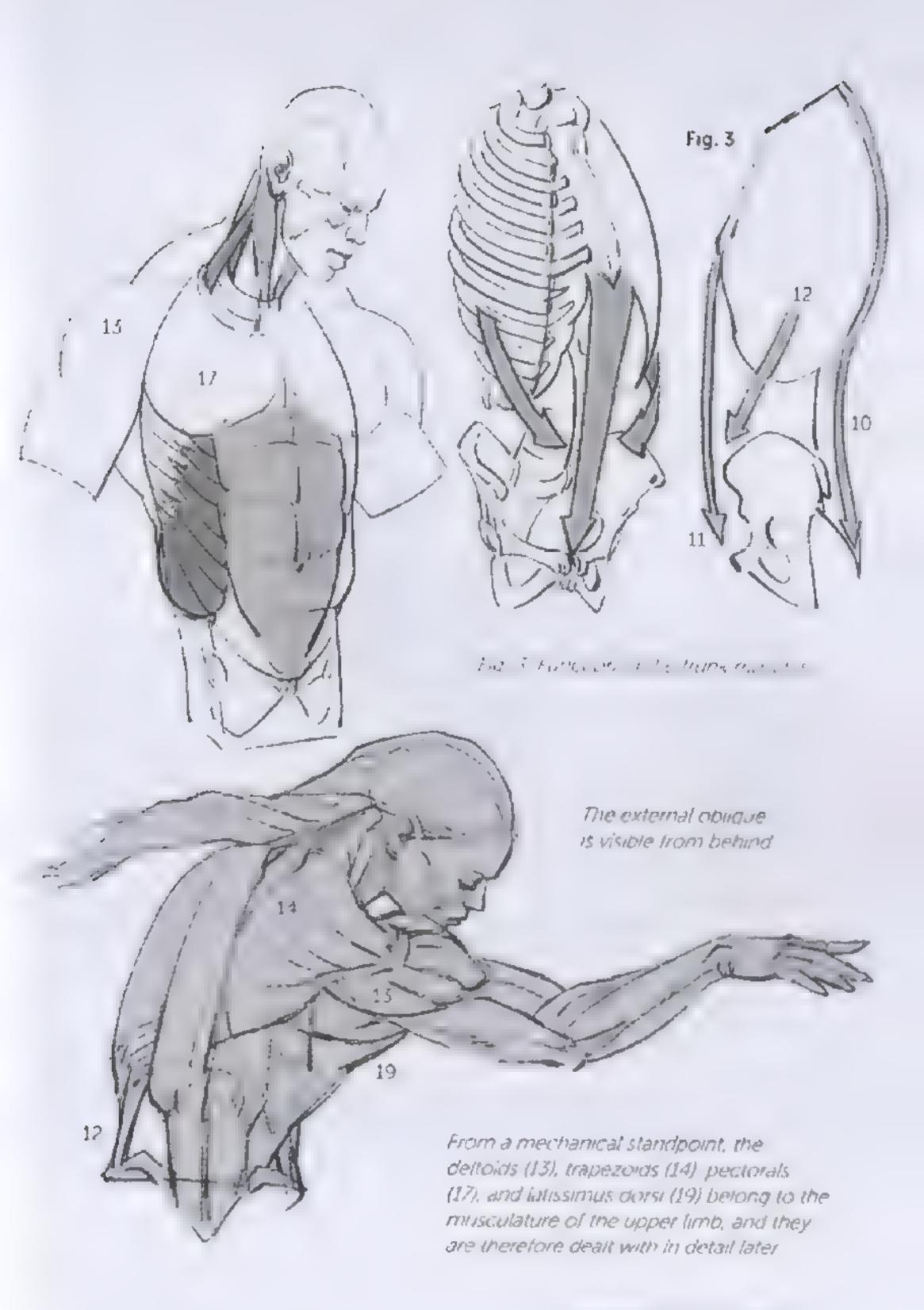






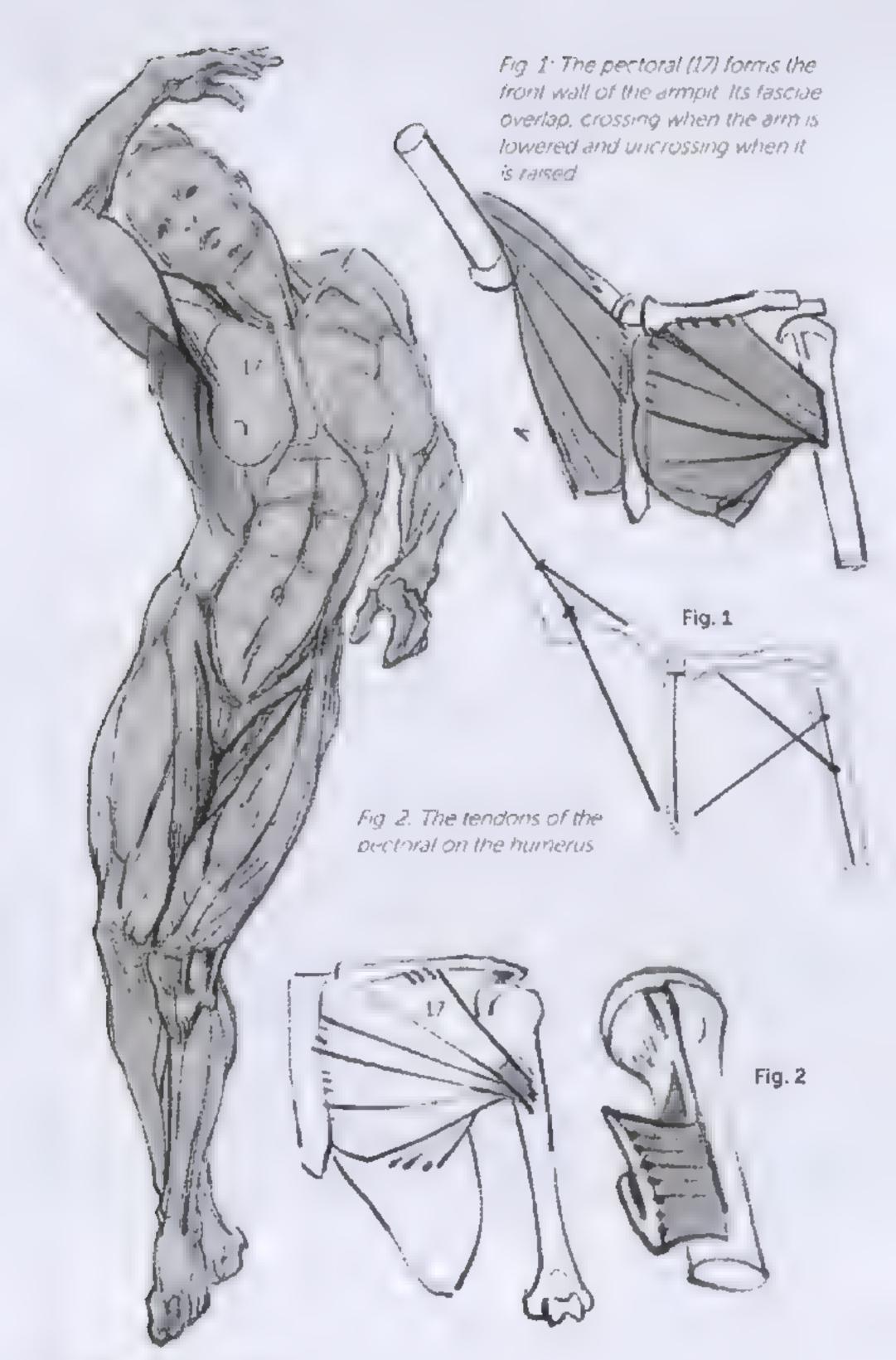


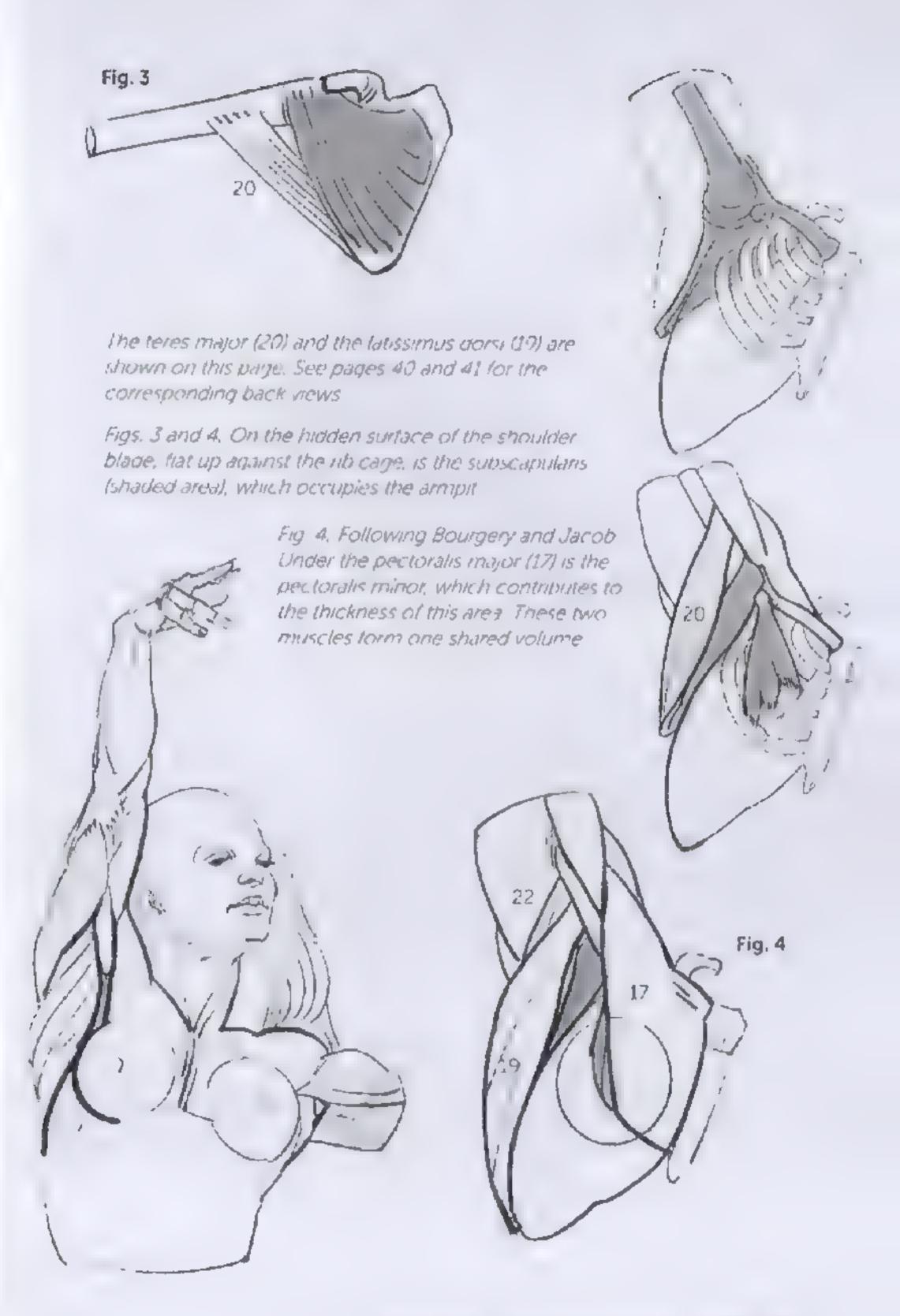


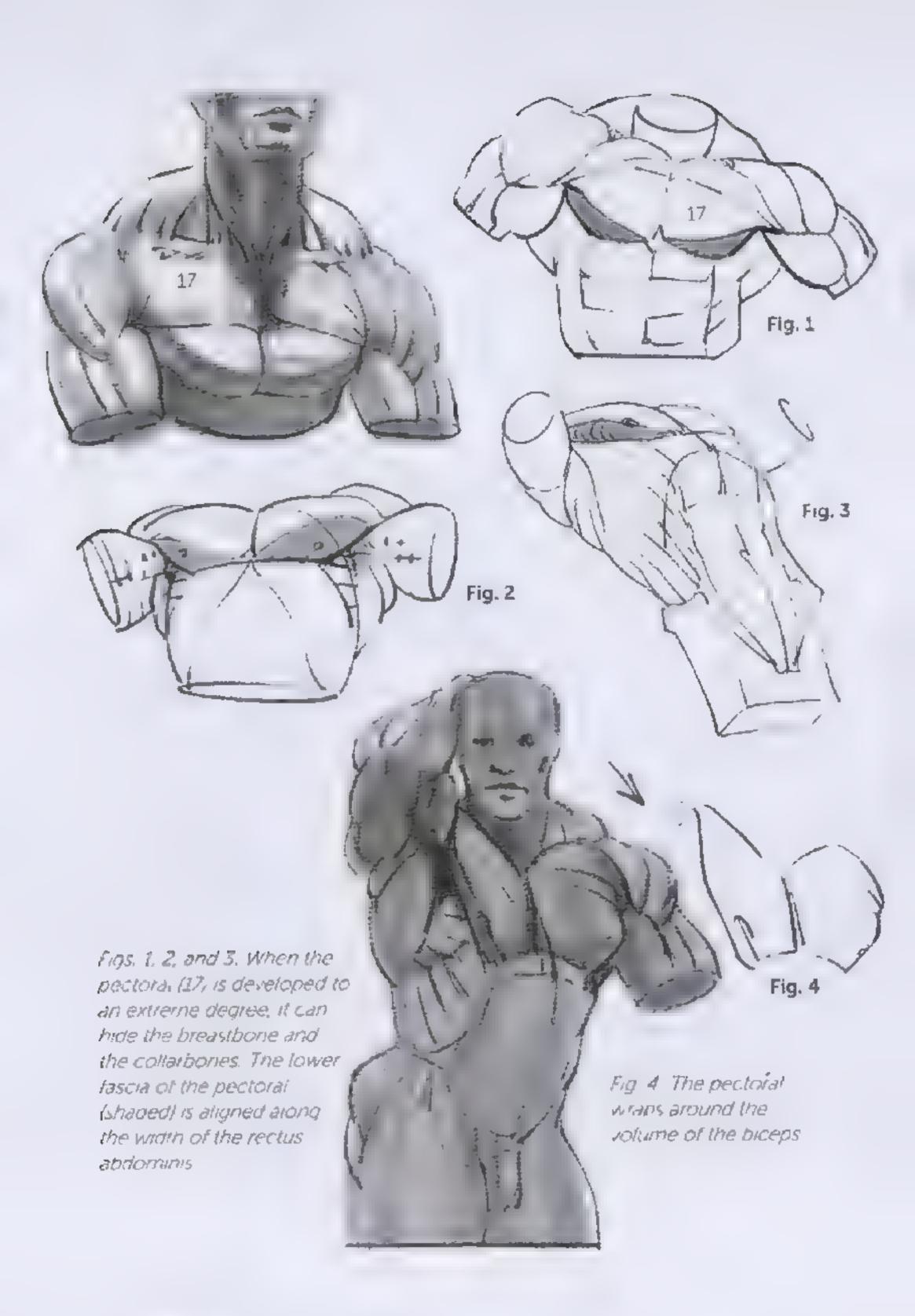


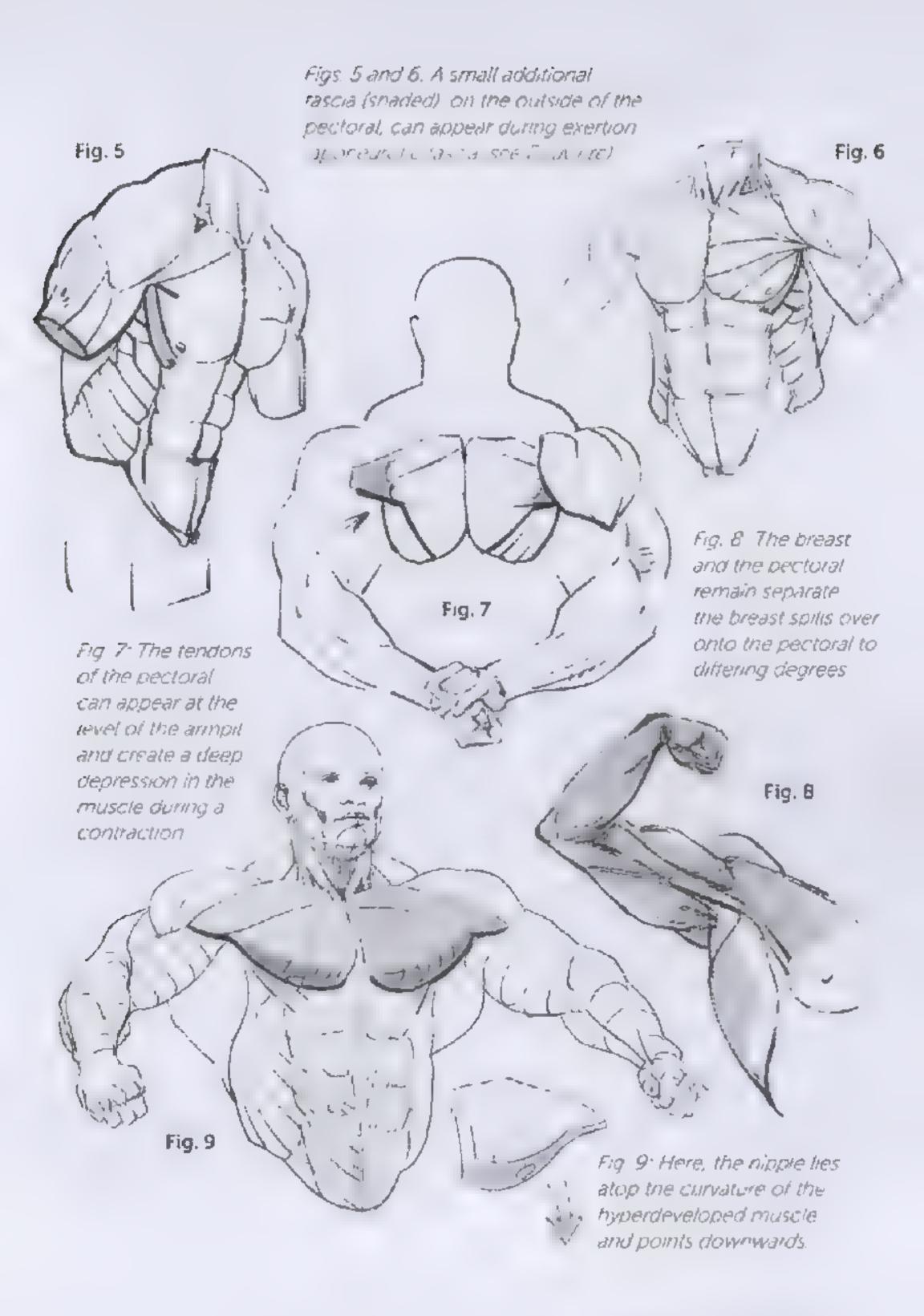


upper limb









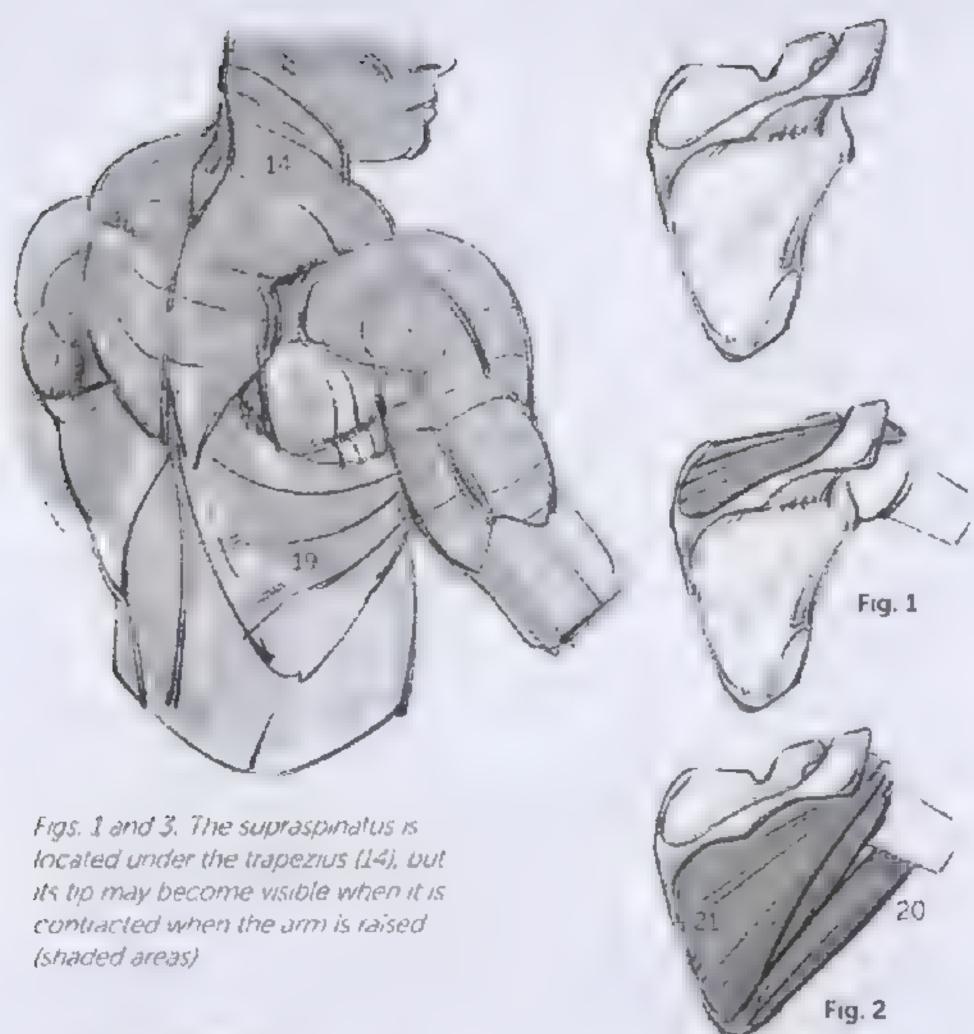
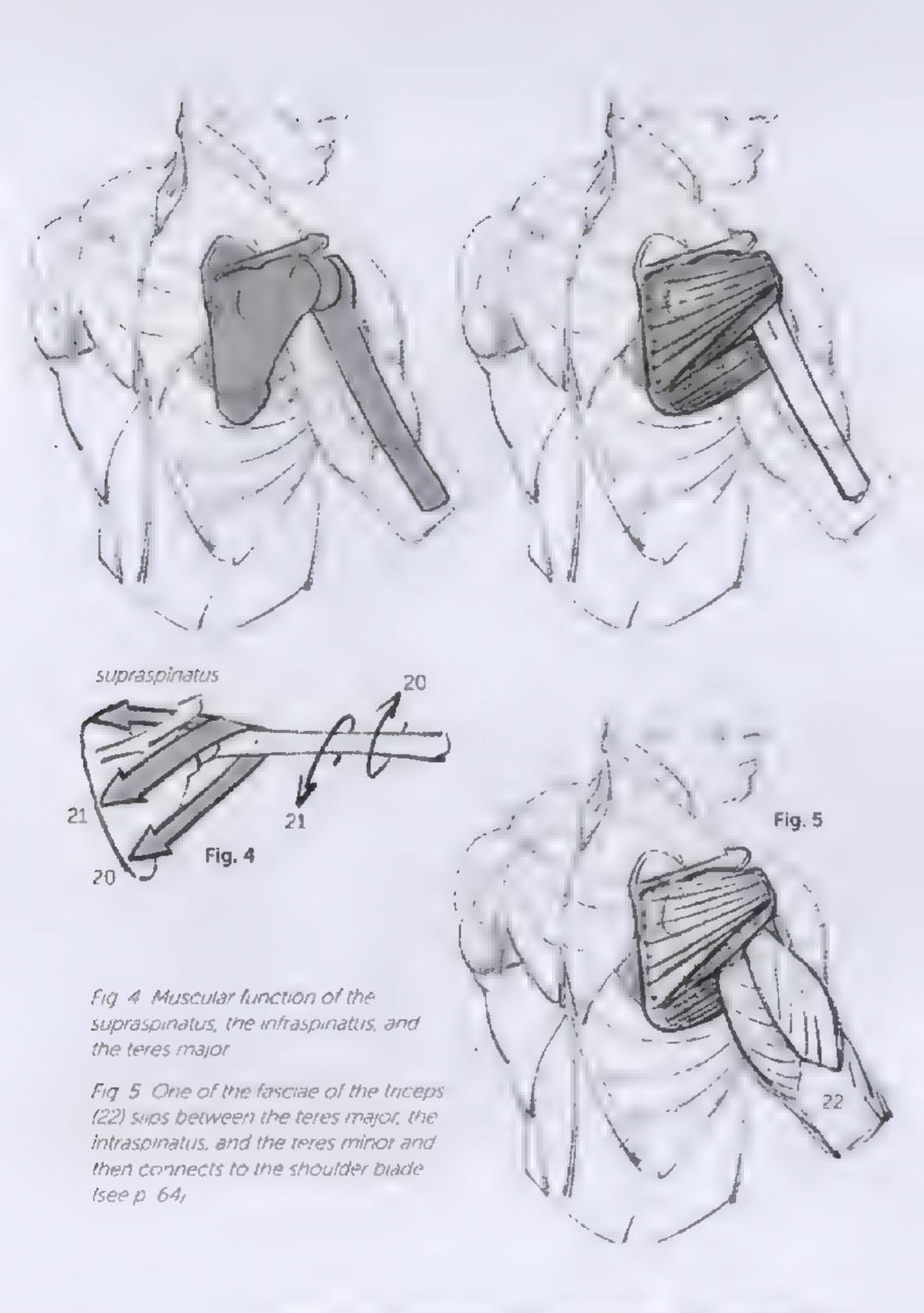




Fig 2 The infraspinatus (21) is connected with a small muscle that tuns alongside it underneath, called the teres minor, which is not always easy to distinguish

The teres major (20) on the other hand, is a powerful muscle that has a direct influence on the outline of the body's contour. It is connected with the latissimus dorsi (19), and together, these two muscles are responsible for the rear wall of the armuit





The latissimus dorsi (19) can take on spectacular proportions and completely change the appearance of the torso, giving it a 'V' shape that is tright security builder.

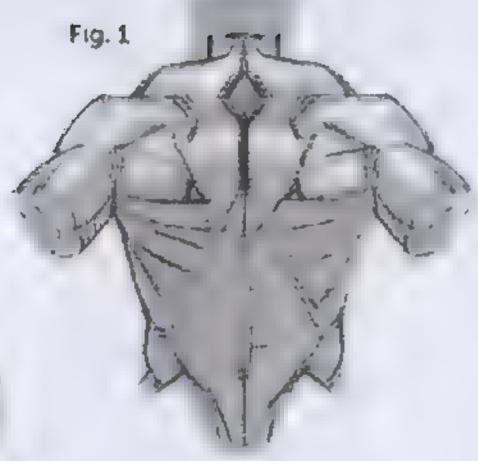
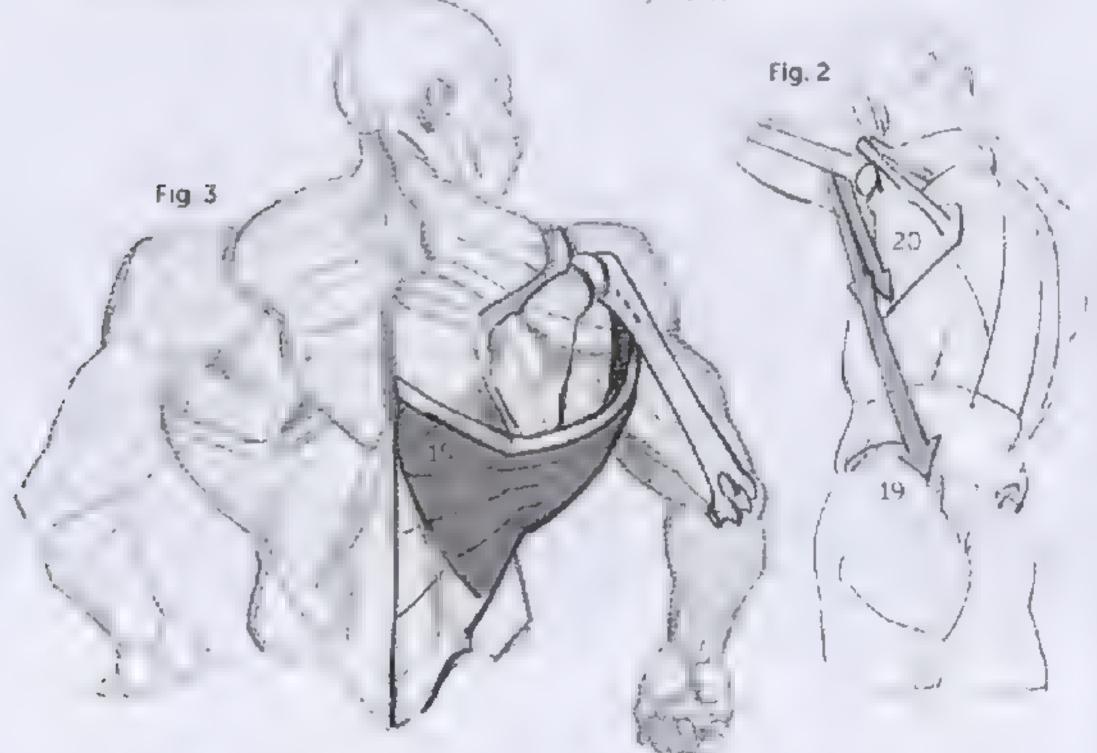
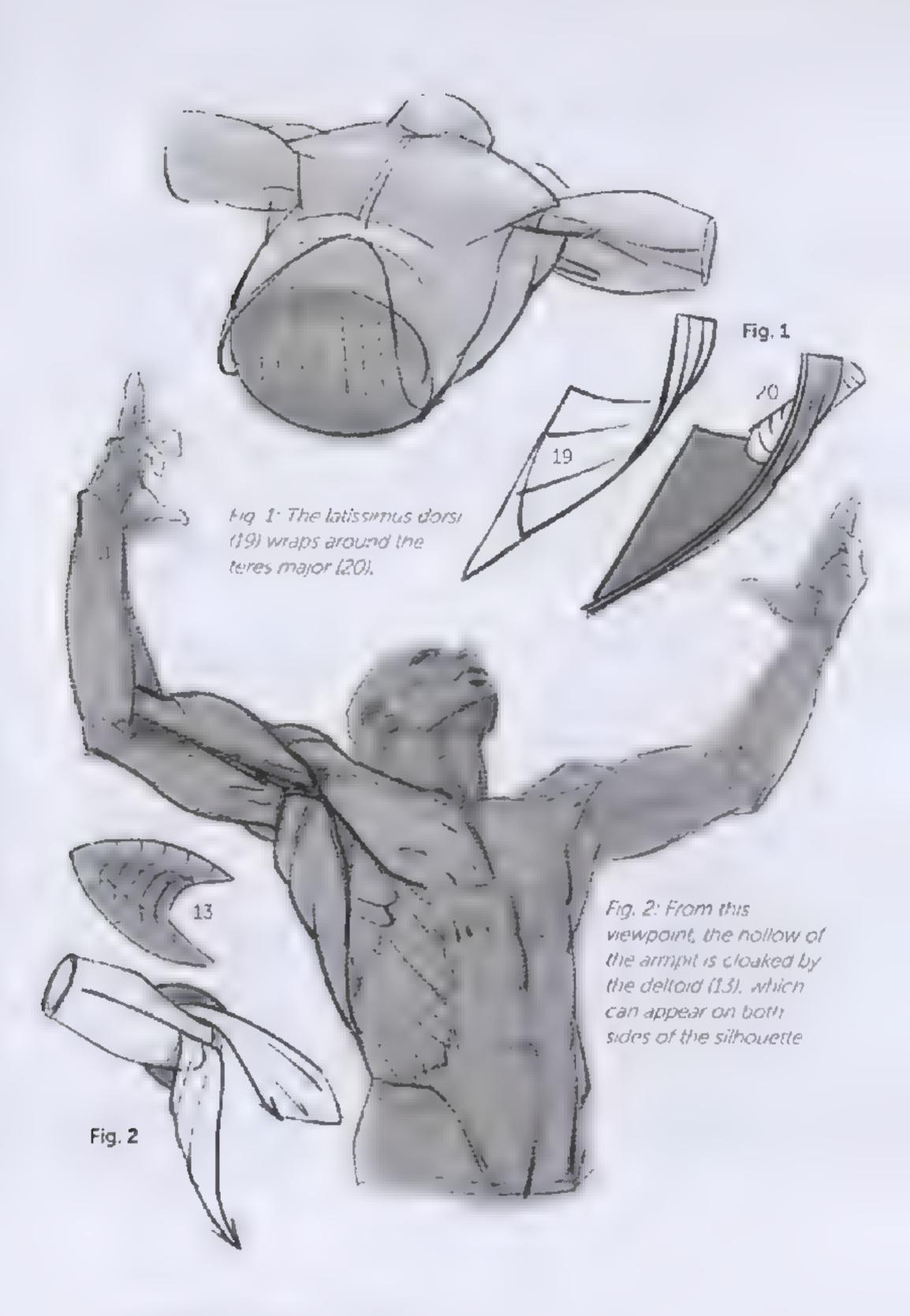


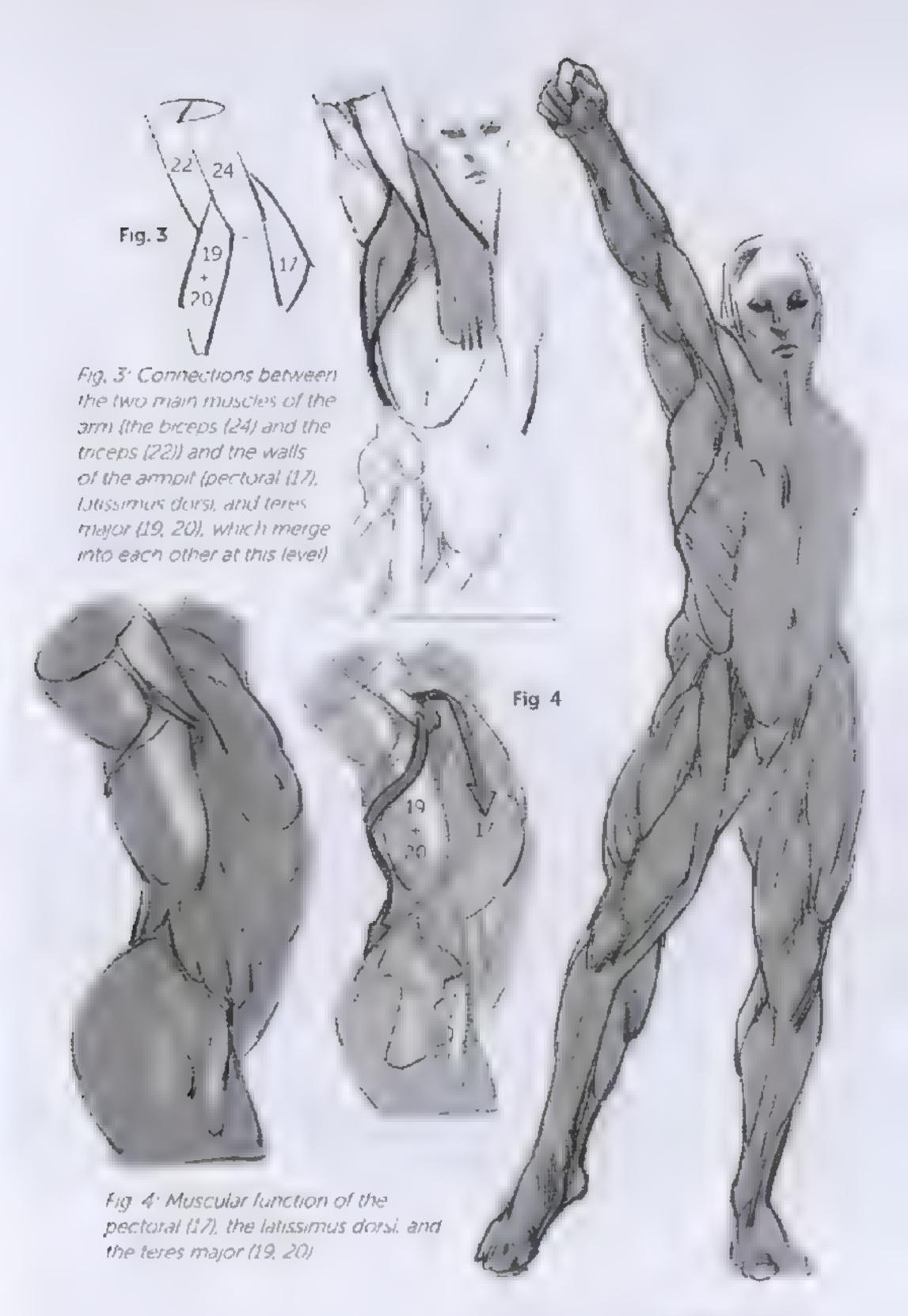
Fig. 1. The contraction of the latissimus dorsi reveals its fanshaped arrangement and its set of tendons which then, at the level of the kidneys, connect to the spinal muscles (see p. 29).

Fig. 2. Muscular function of the Muscular function func







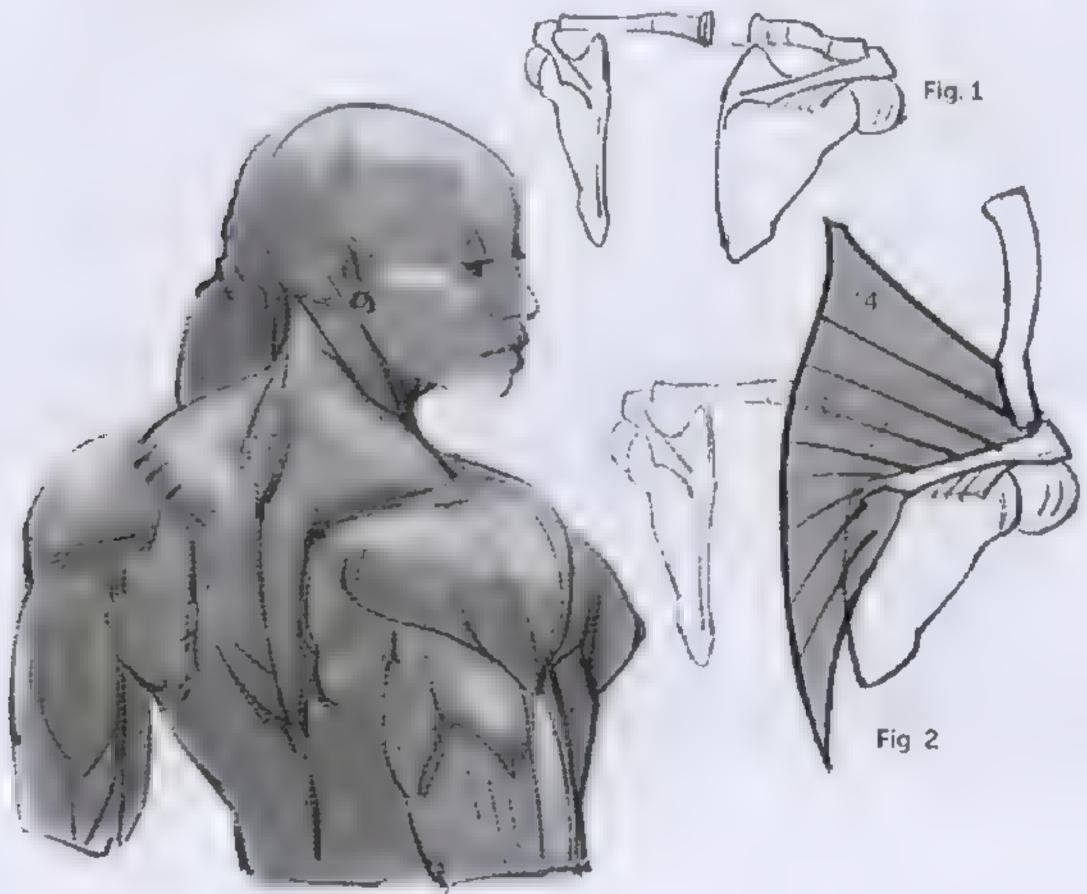


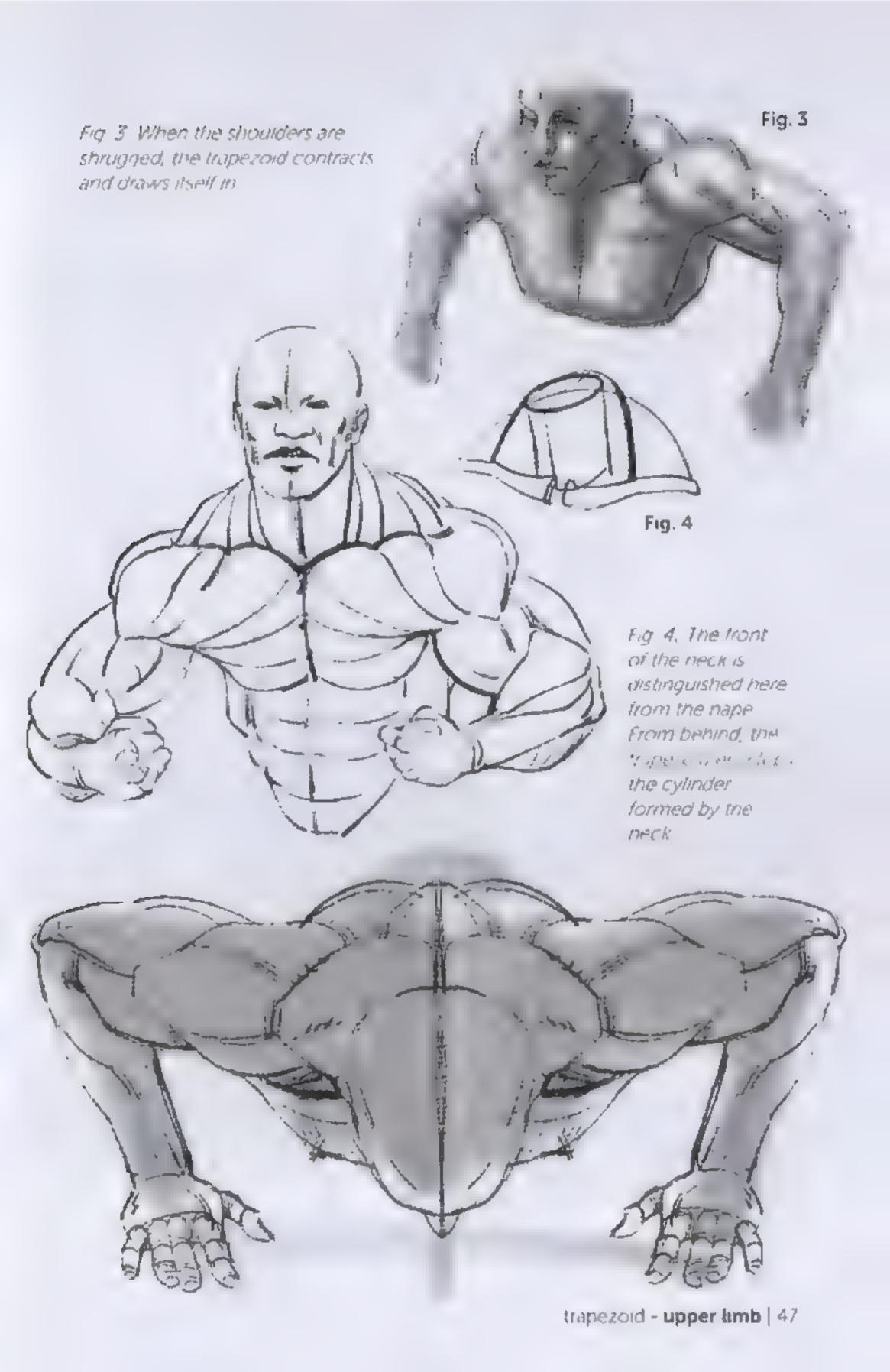
The upper timps are suspended from the skull and the spinal column by way of the trapezius (14). When this muscle is developed to its extreme it very much changes the look of the back of the neck.

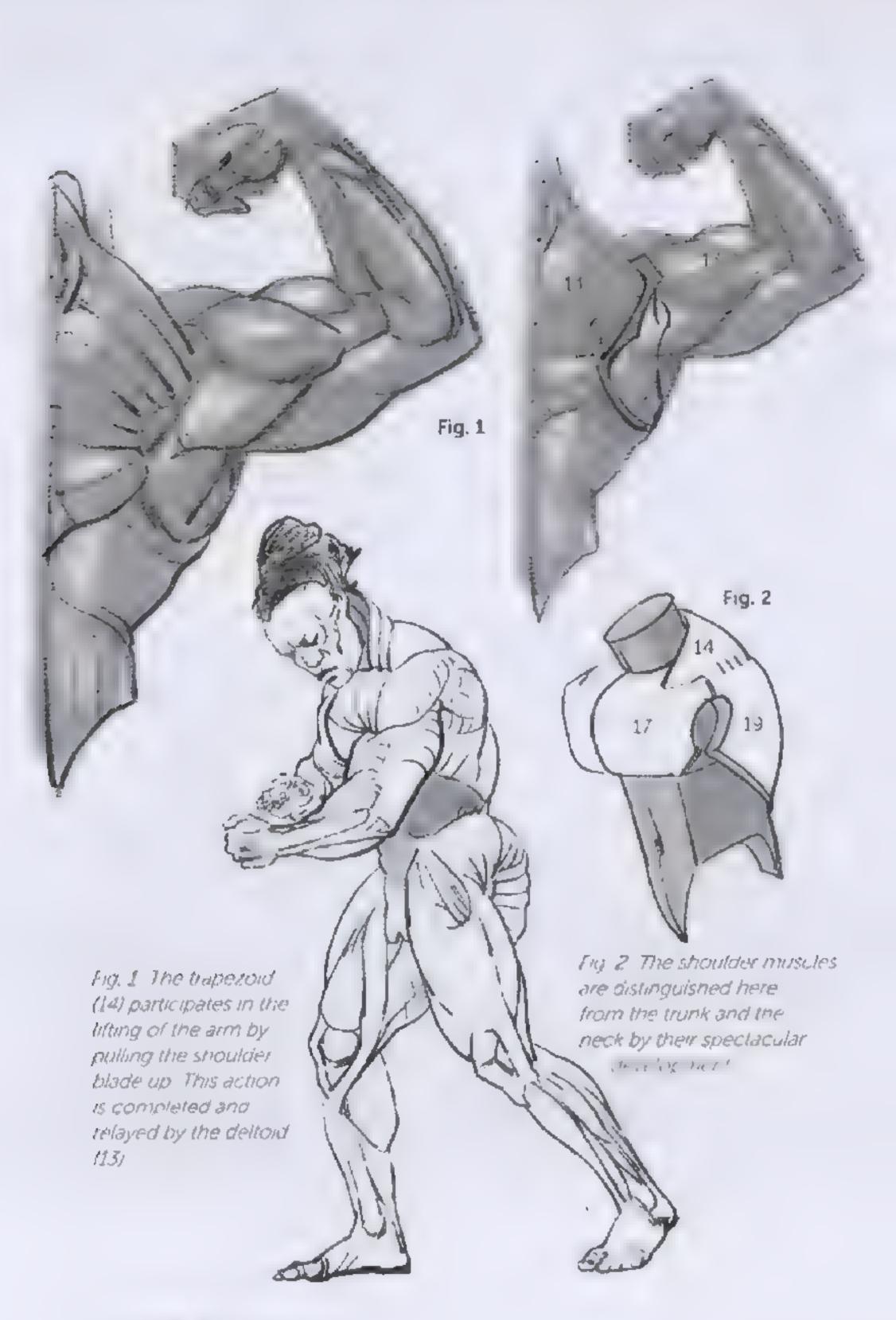
Fig. 1: Scapular belt or shoulder girdle (shoulder blades and collarbones)

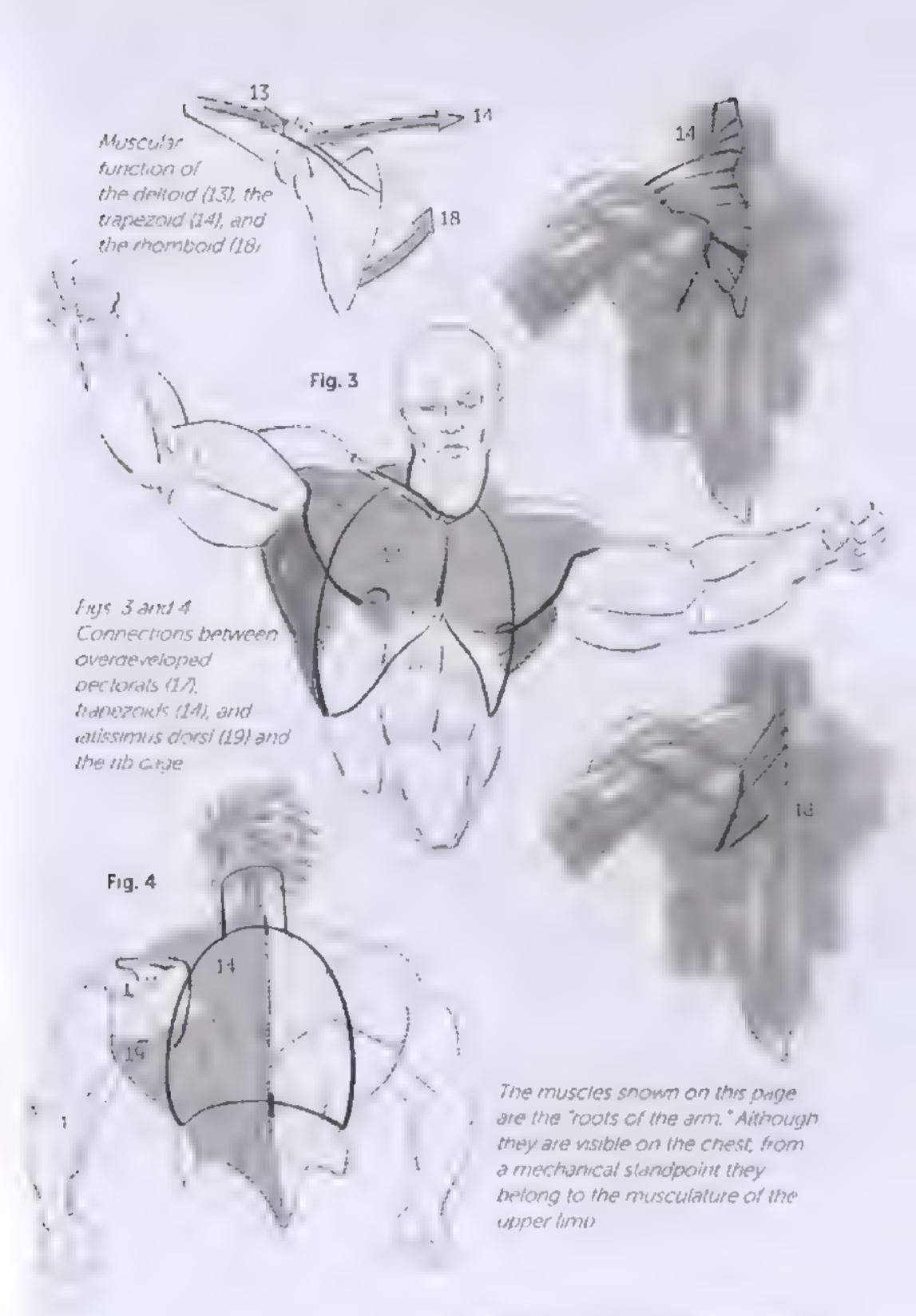
Fig 2 The trapezoid ([4]) is represented here in an improbable position, with the collarbone detached from the sternum and standing up vertically. But this allows us to easily understand its connections with the scapular belt faces the collarbones.

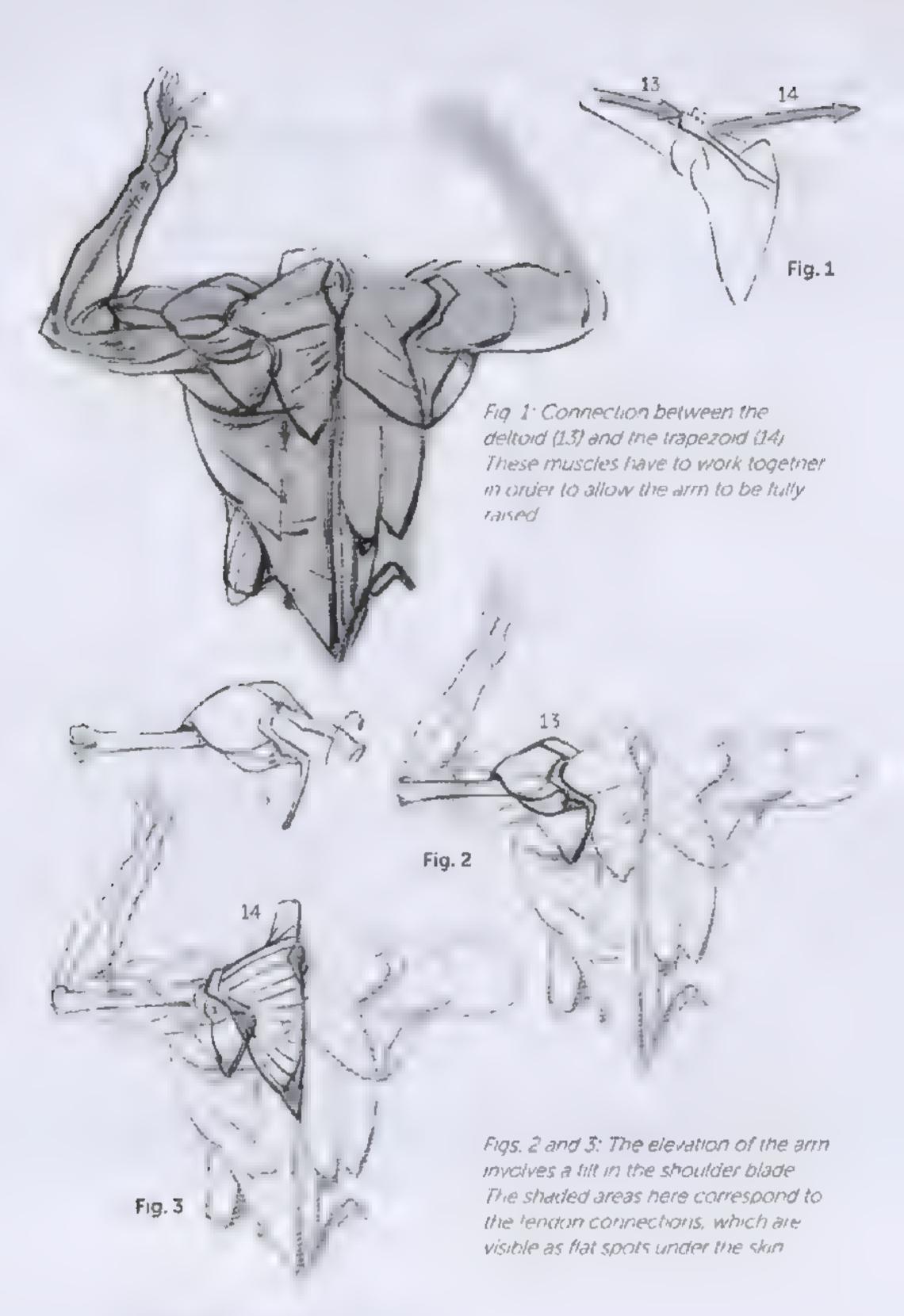


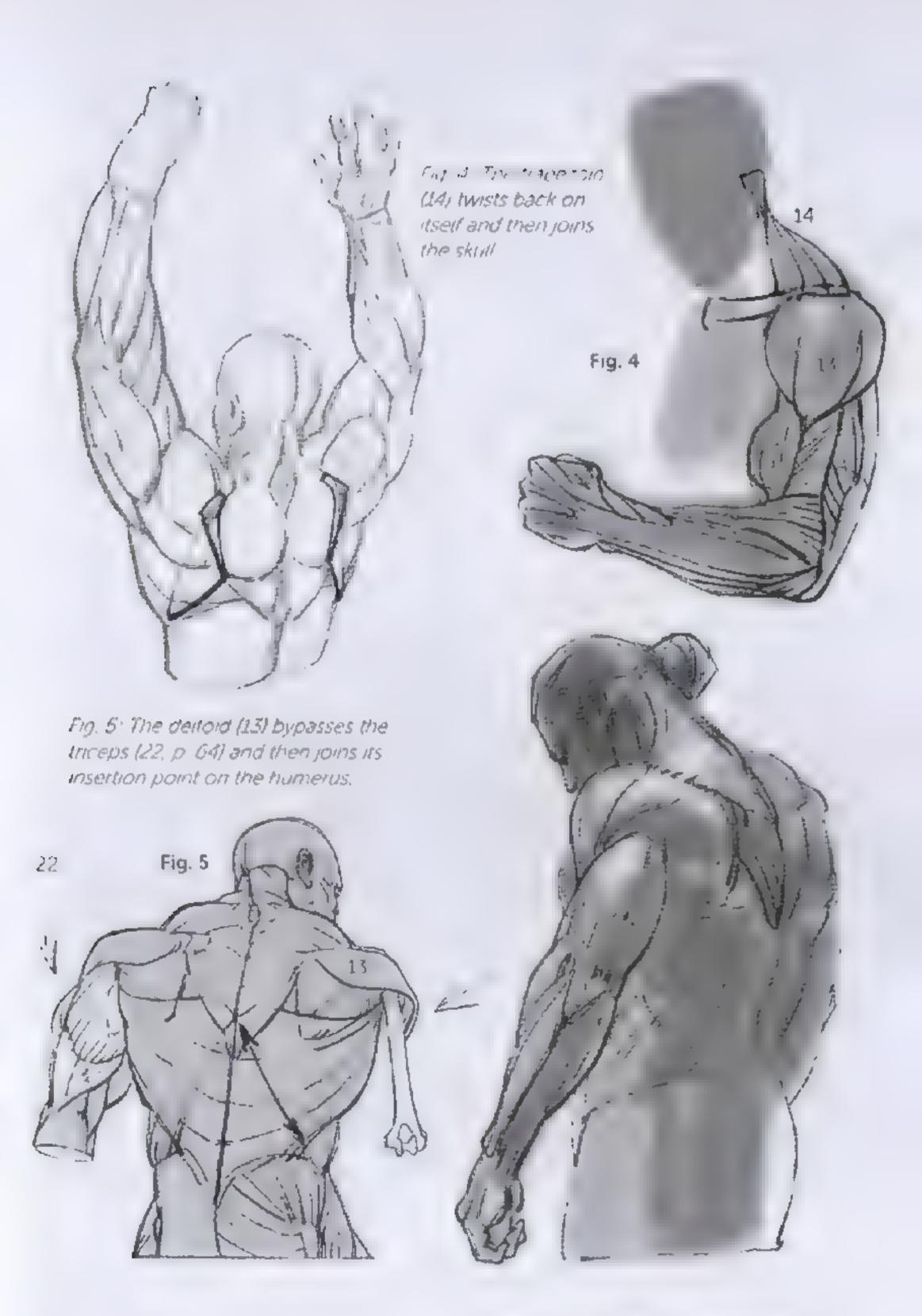












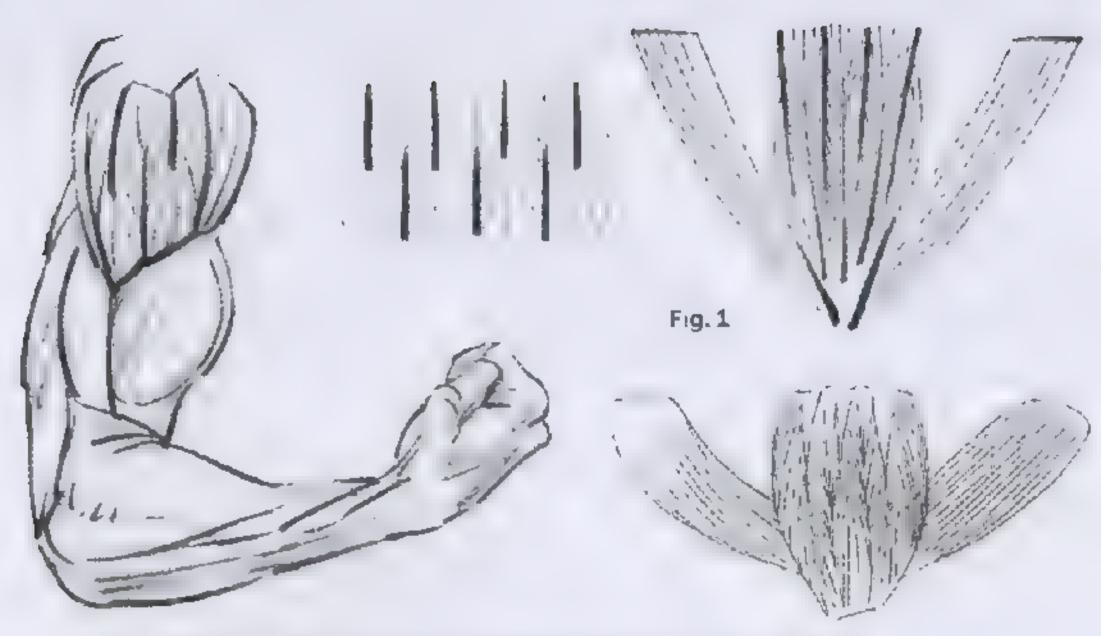
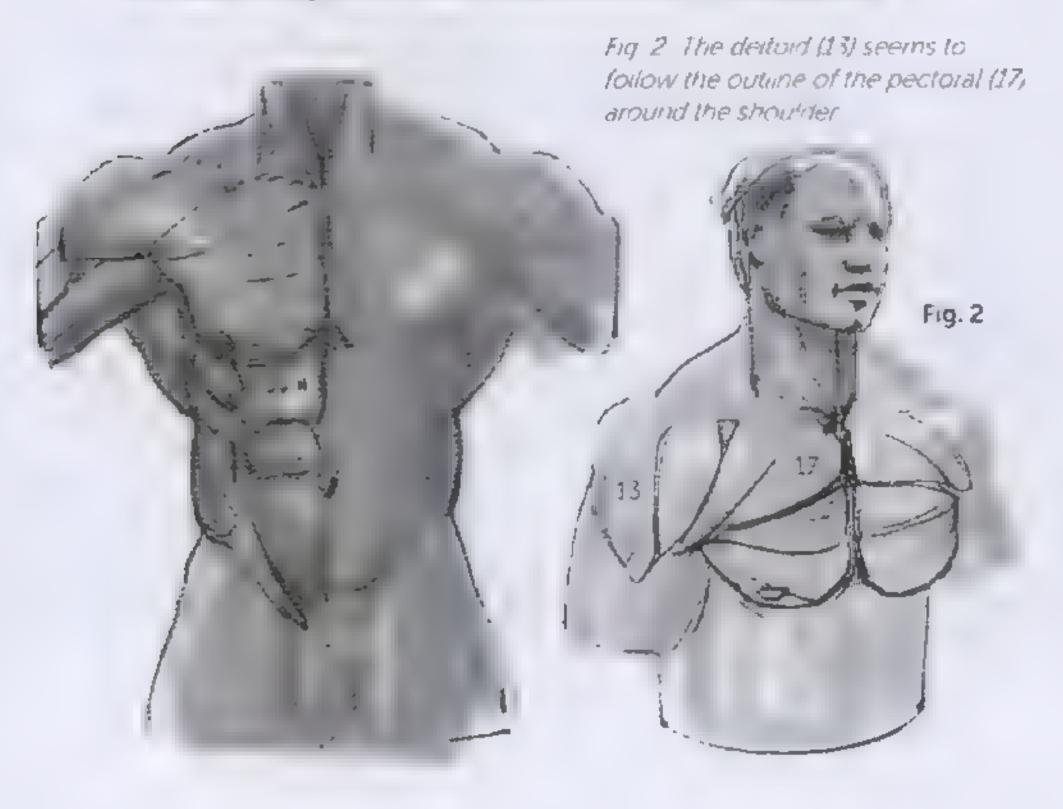
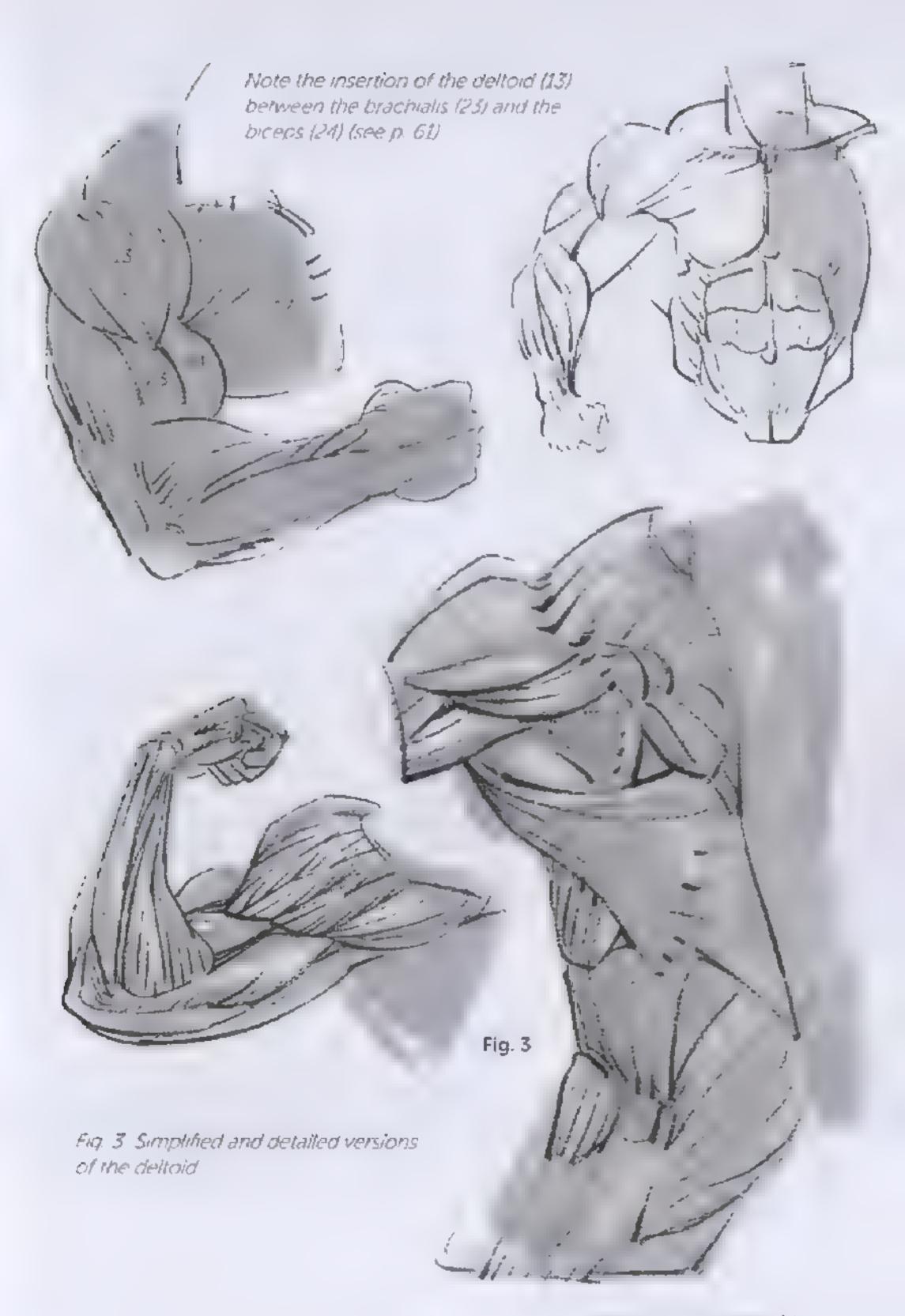
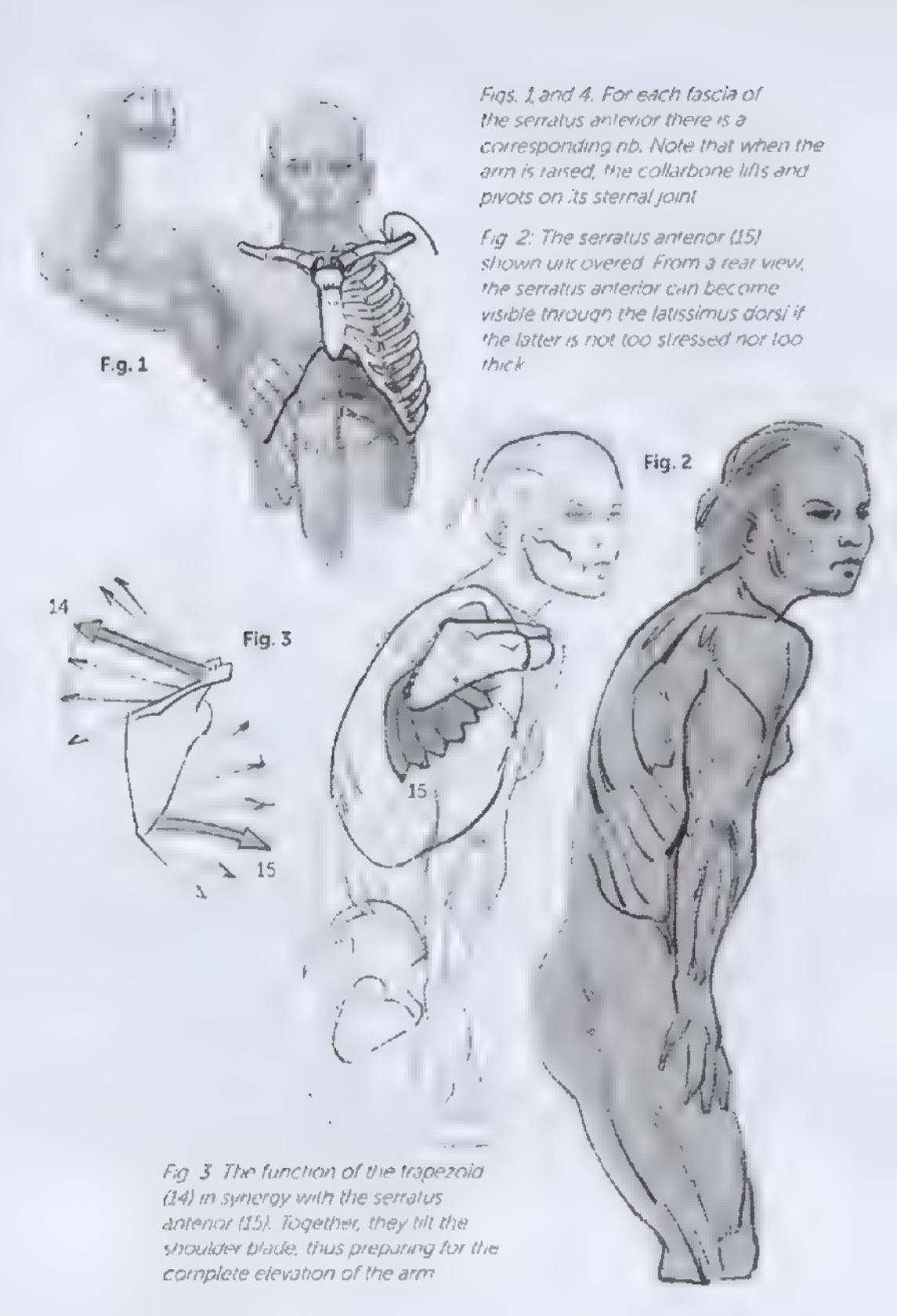
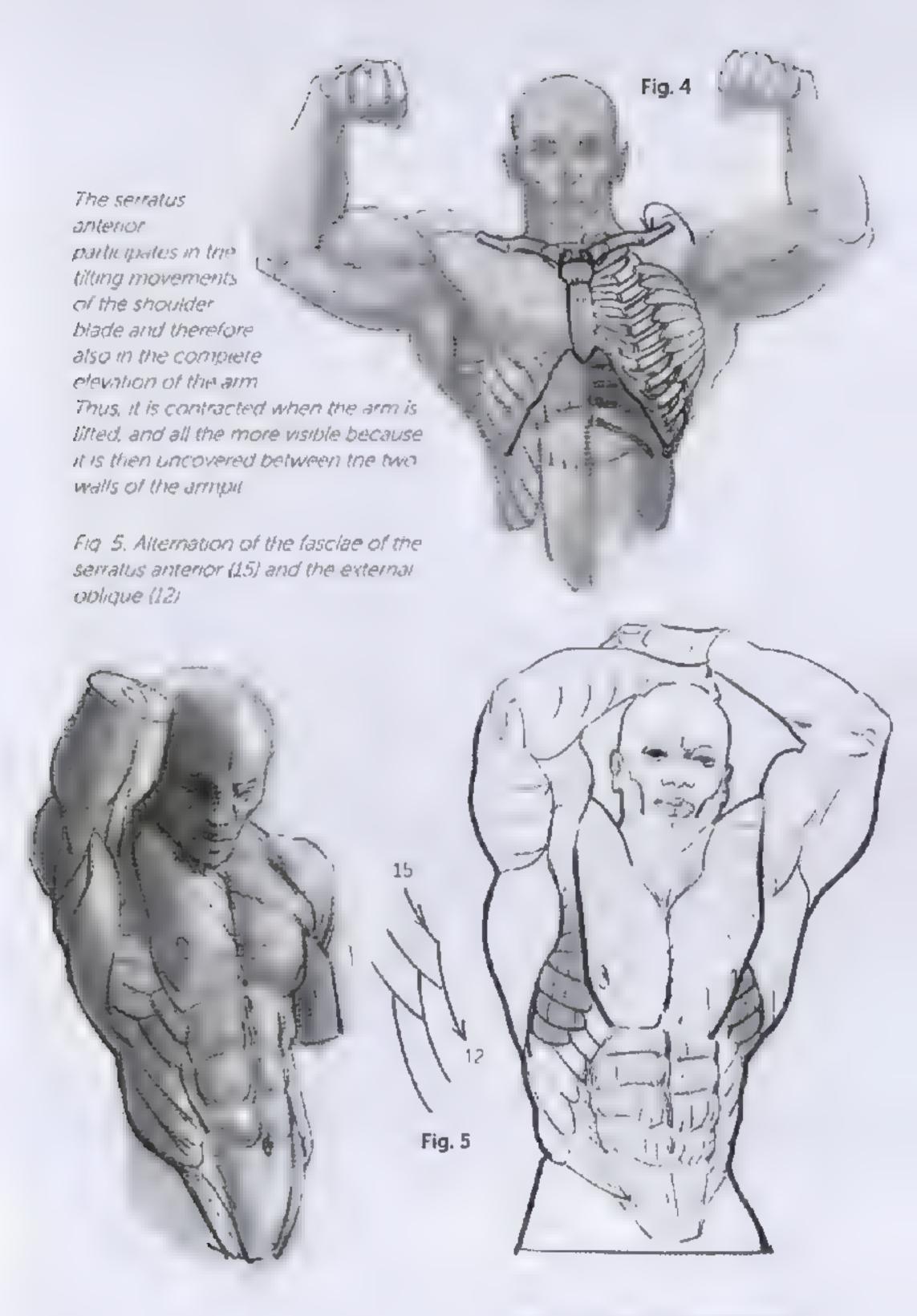


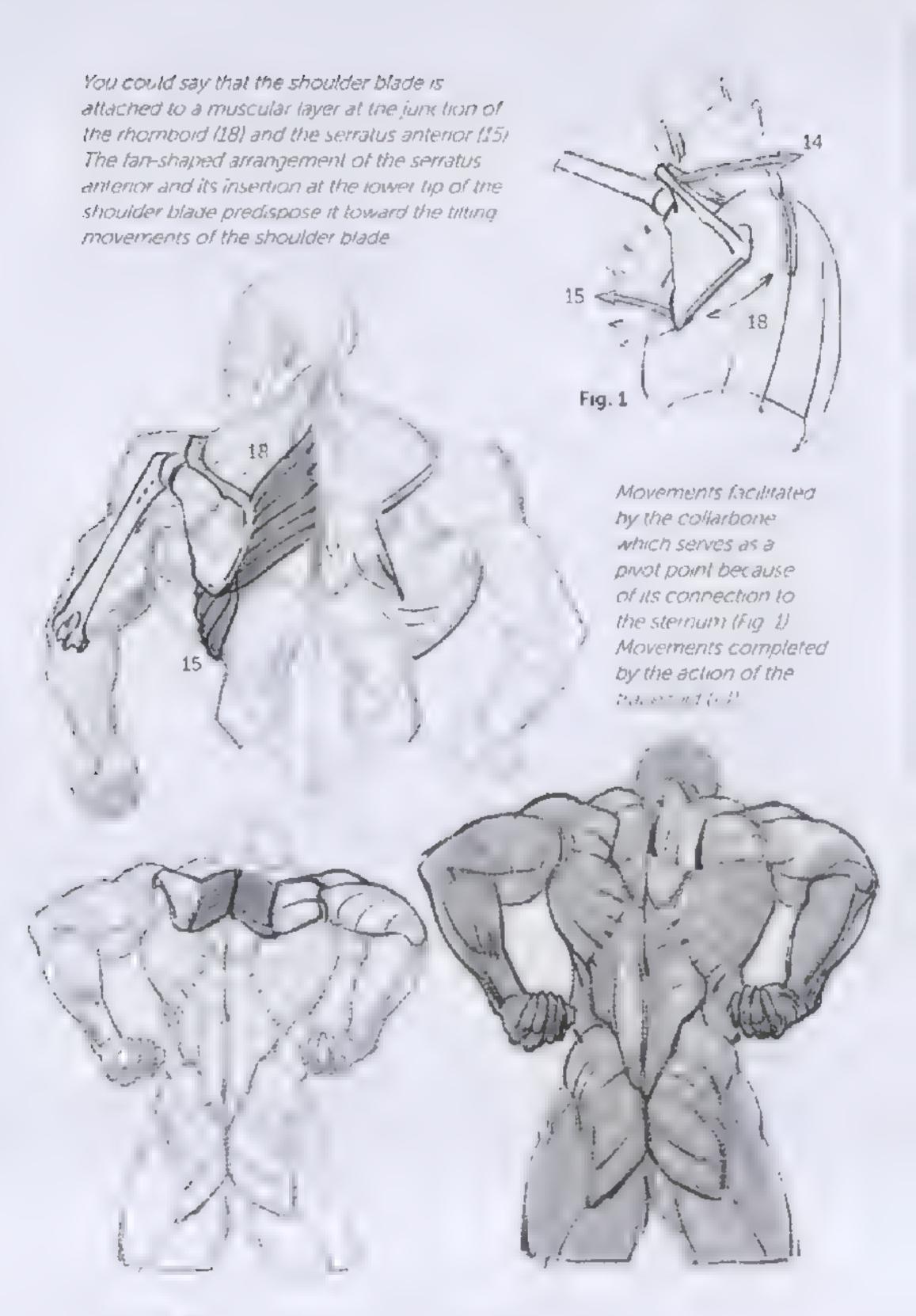
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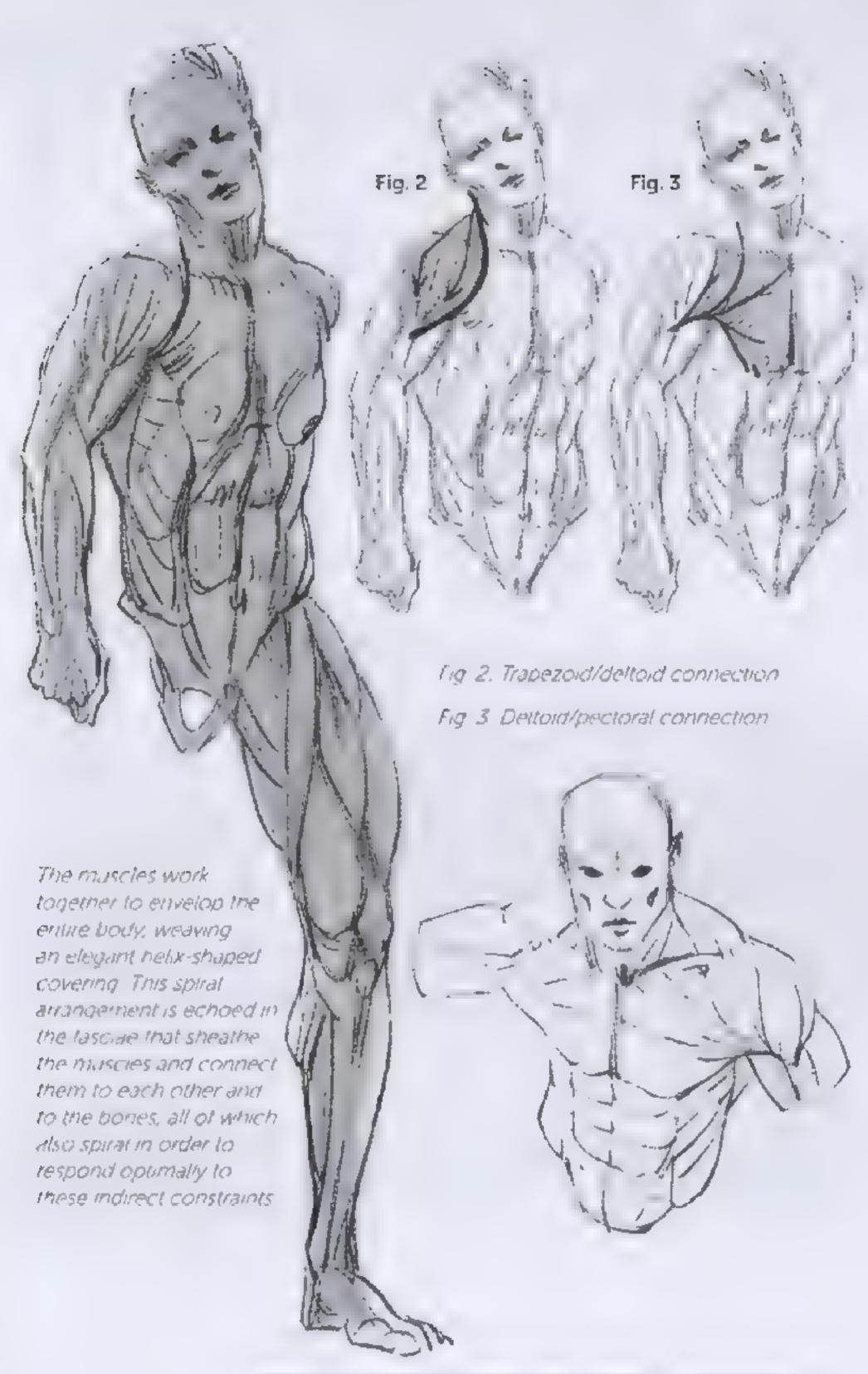




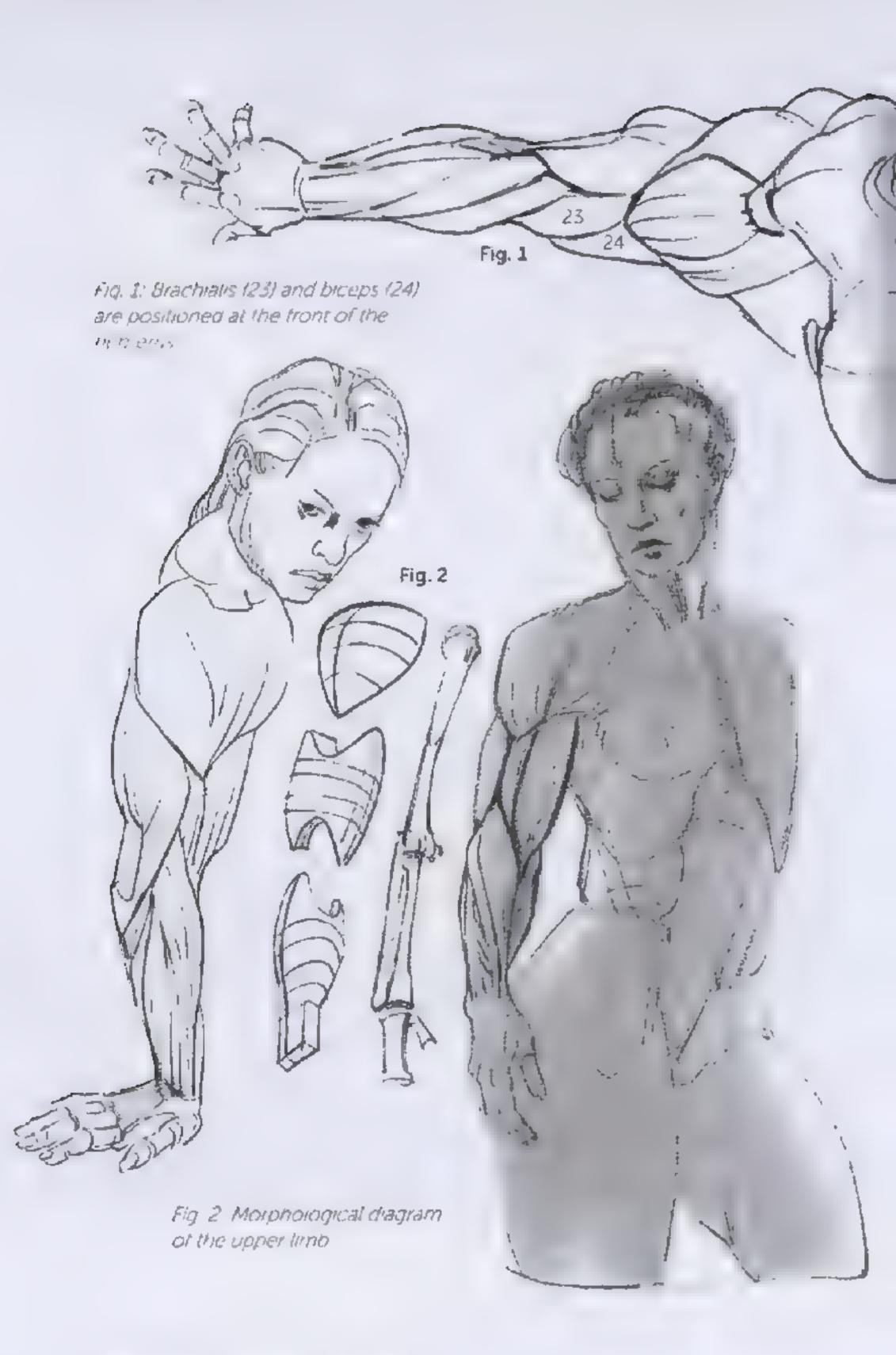








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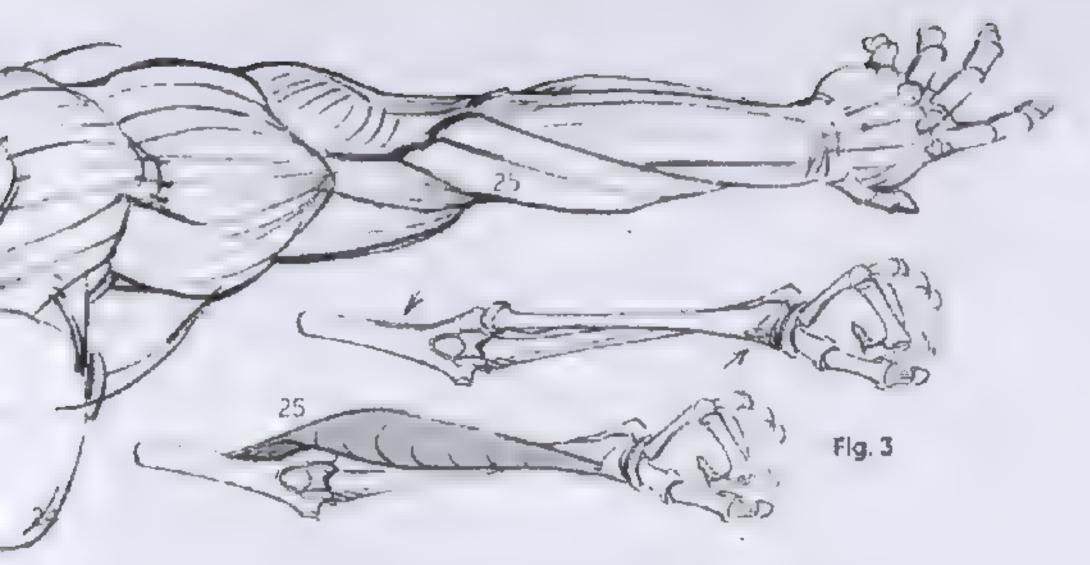
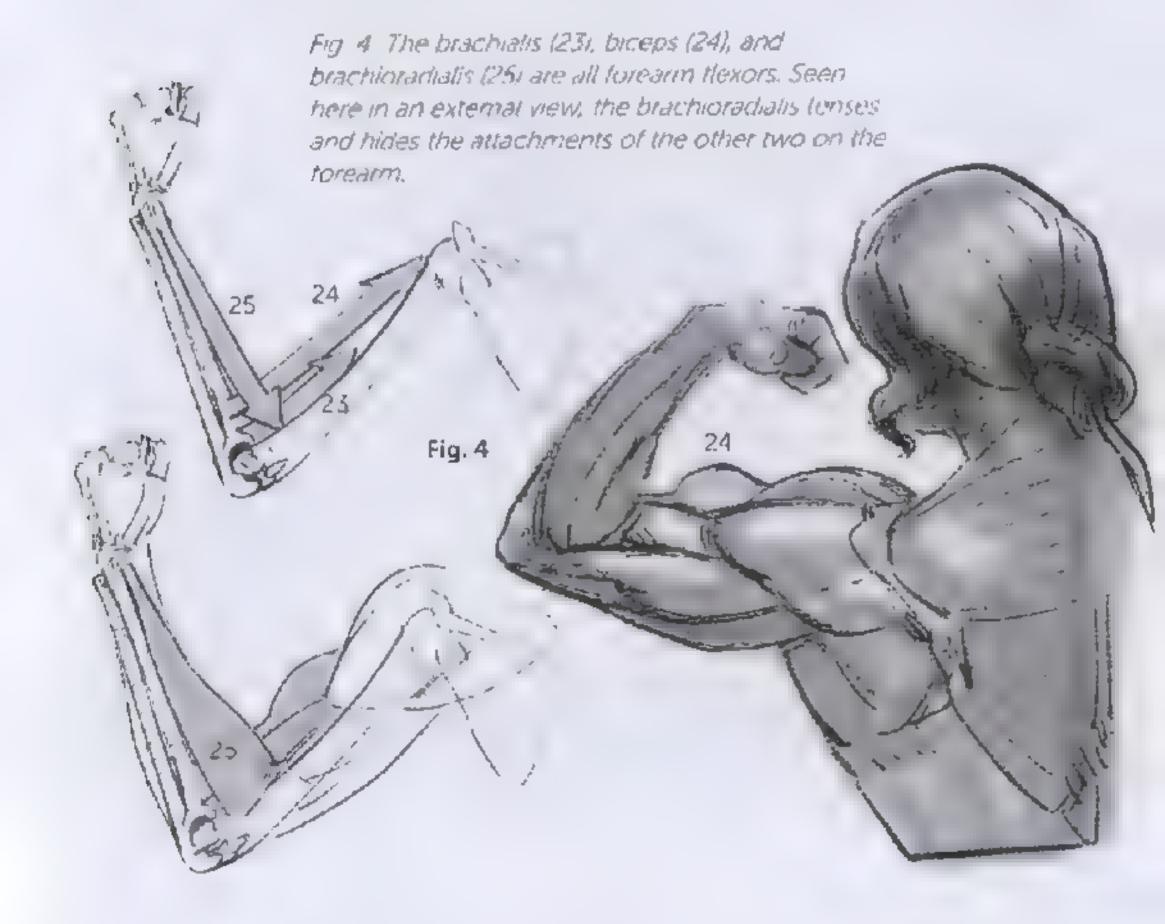
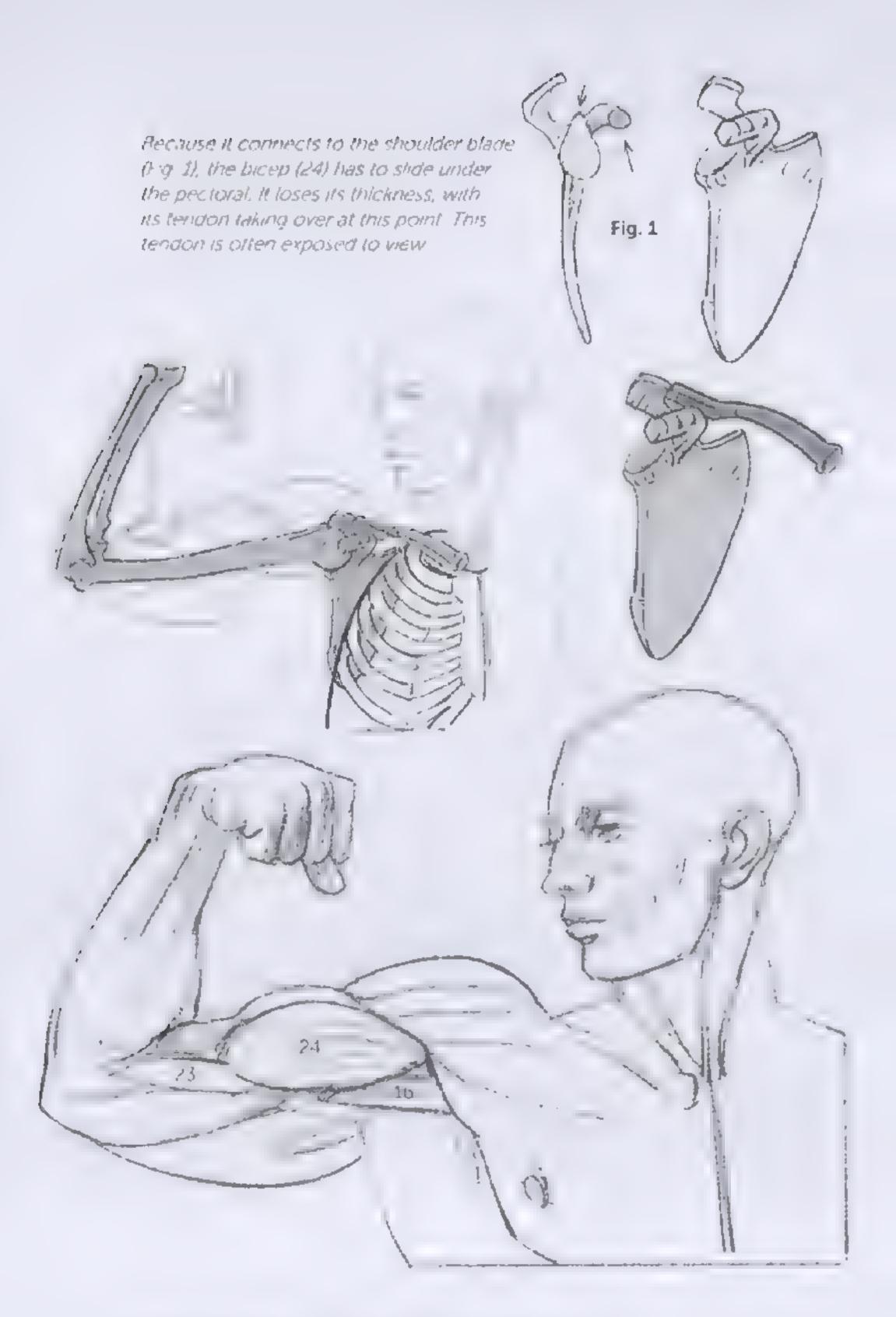
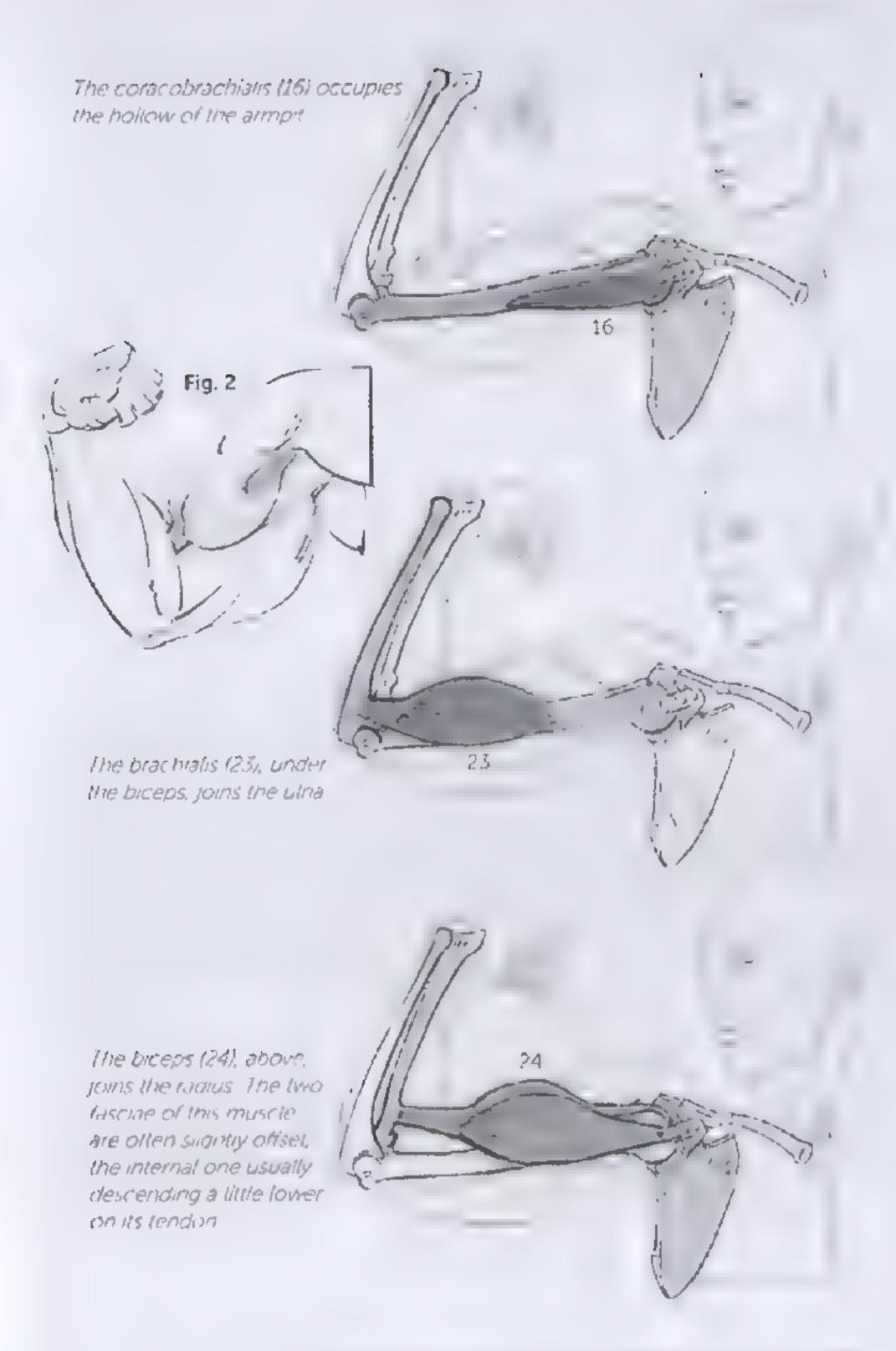


Fig. 3. The brachioradialis (25) of the outside of the elbow reemerges at the wrist, on the side of the thumb. It follows the radius.







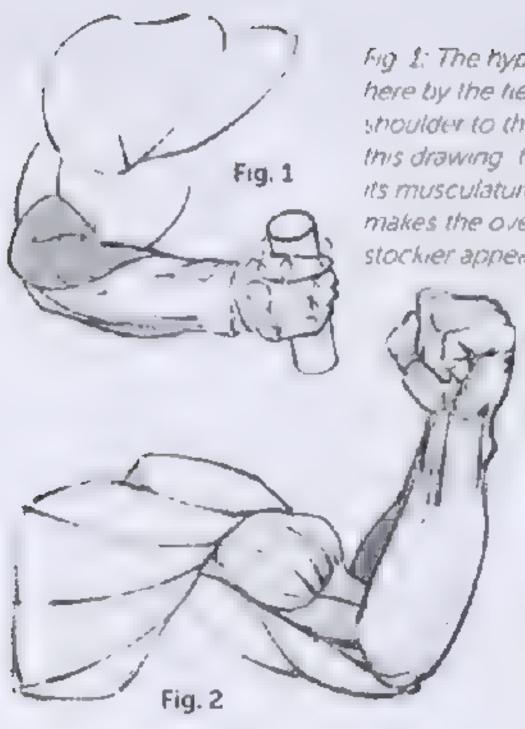
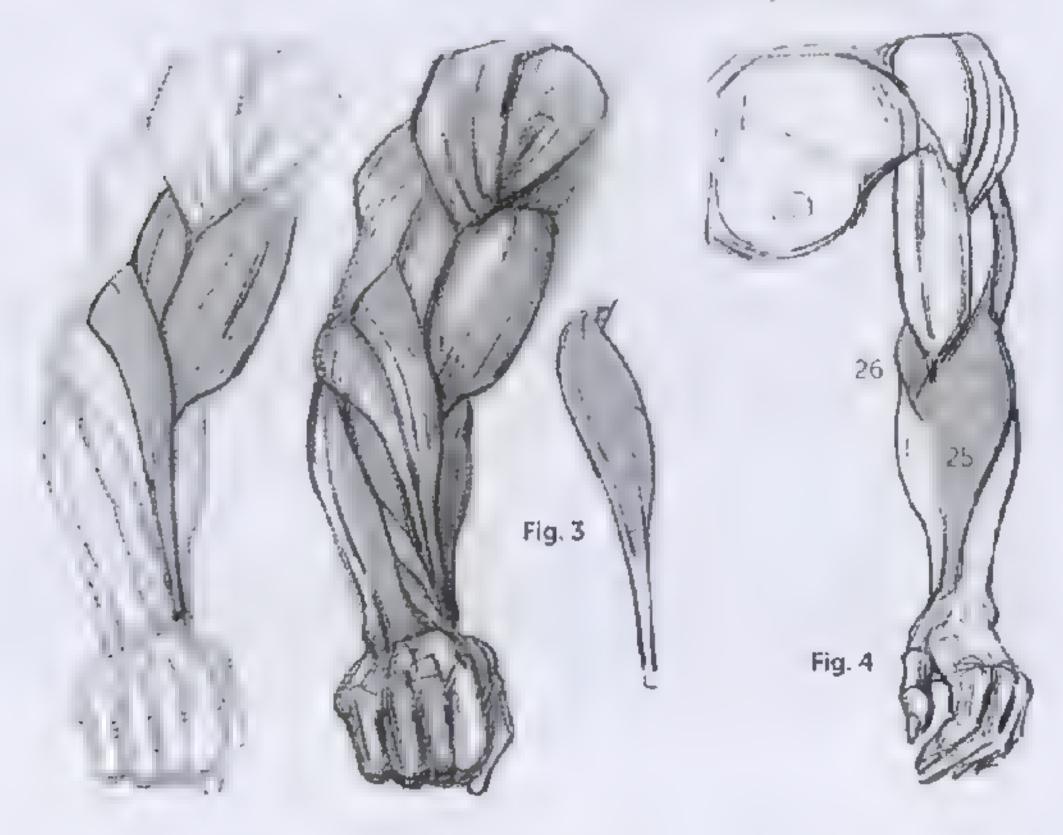


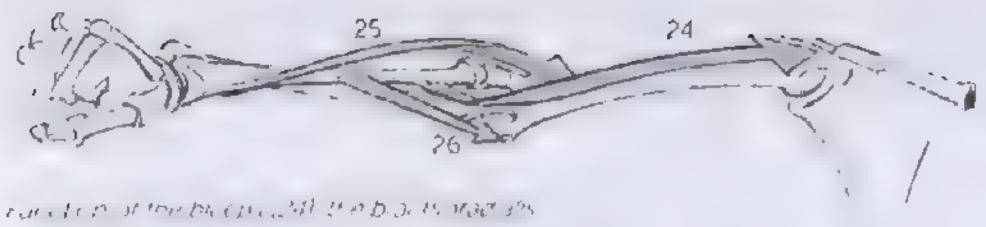
Fig. 1: The hyperdeveloped brachioradialis is restricted here by the hexion fold. The arm segment (from the shoulder to the elbow) appears extremely short in this drawing. That is because of the development of its musculature as well as that of the shoulder, which makes the overall silhouette broader and gives it a stockier appearance.

Fig. 2 Seen from the inside of the elbow, the brachioradialis (shaded area) passes behind the biceps

Fig. 3. Detached brachioradialis. It bypasses the bicens and the brachii to attach to the humerus.

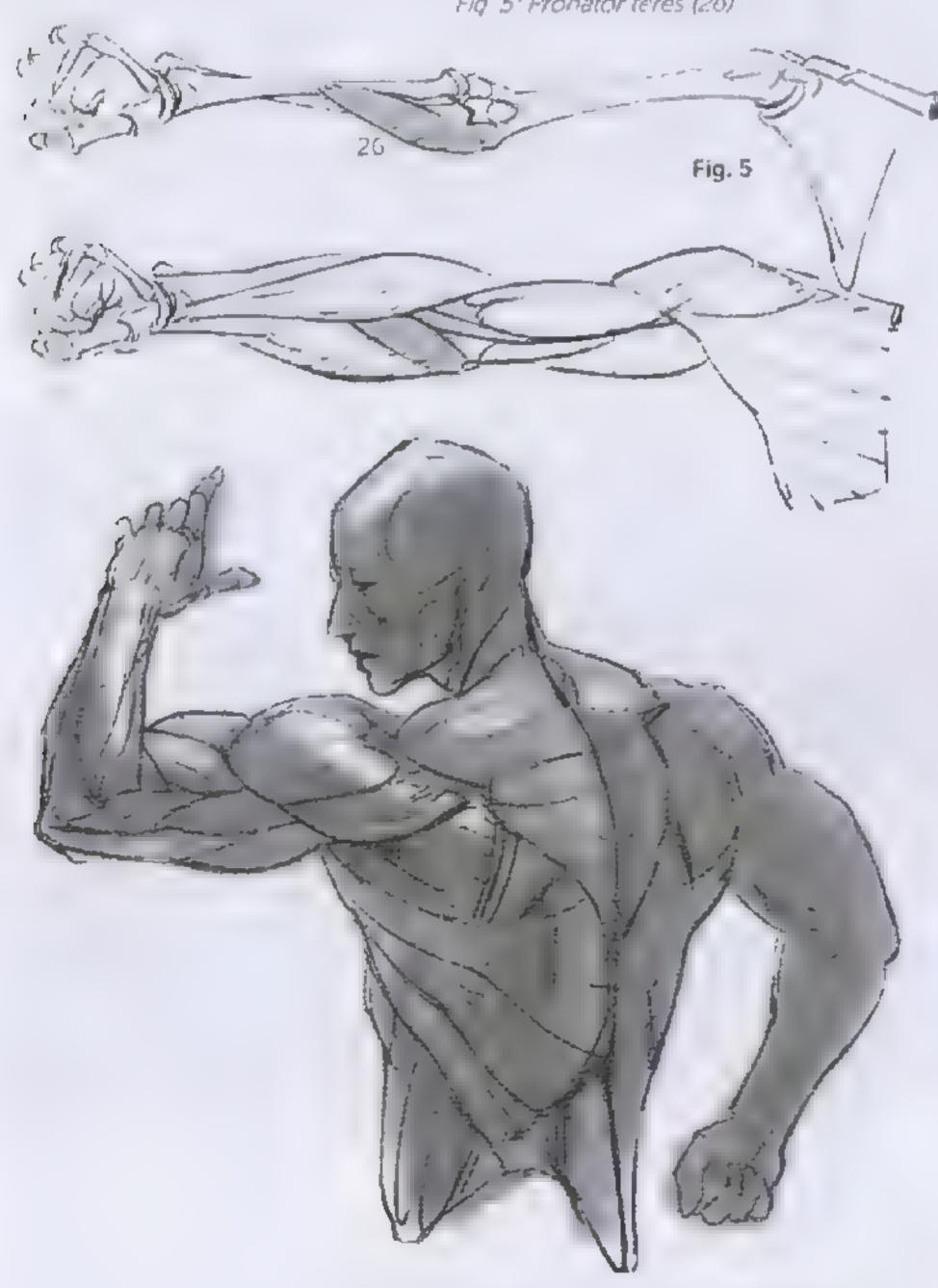
Fig. 4. The pronator teres (26) and the brachioradialis (25) are outlined on either side of the biceps. It makes sense that they would have opposite operations in the movements of pronation and supination (rotation of the hand driven by the radius)





(25), and the pronator teres (26)

Fig. 5: Pronator teres (26)



brachioradialis and pronator teres - upper limb | 63

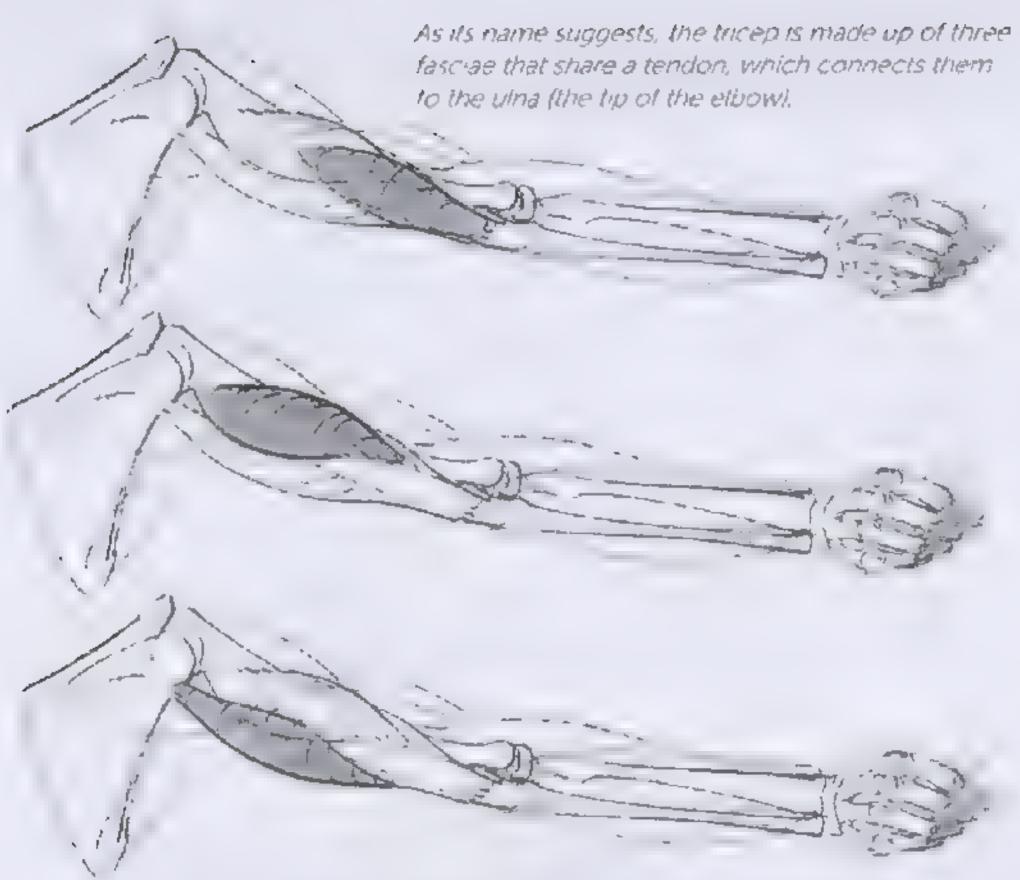
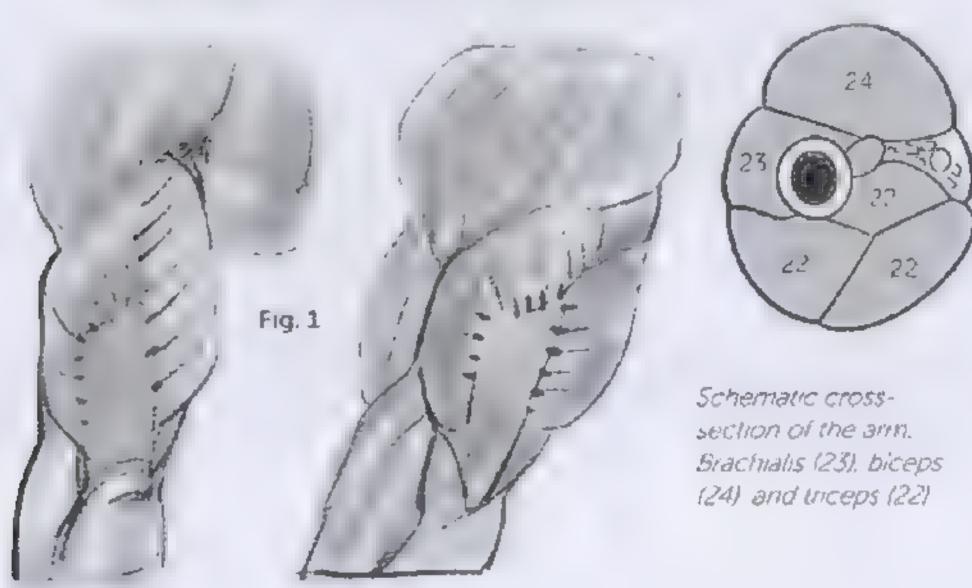
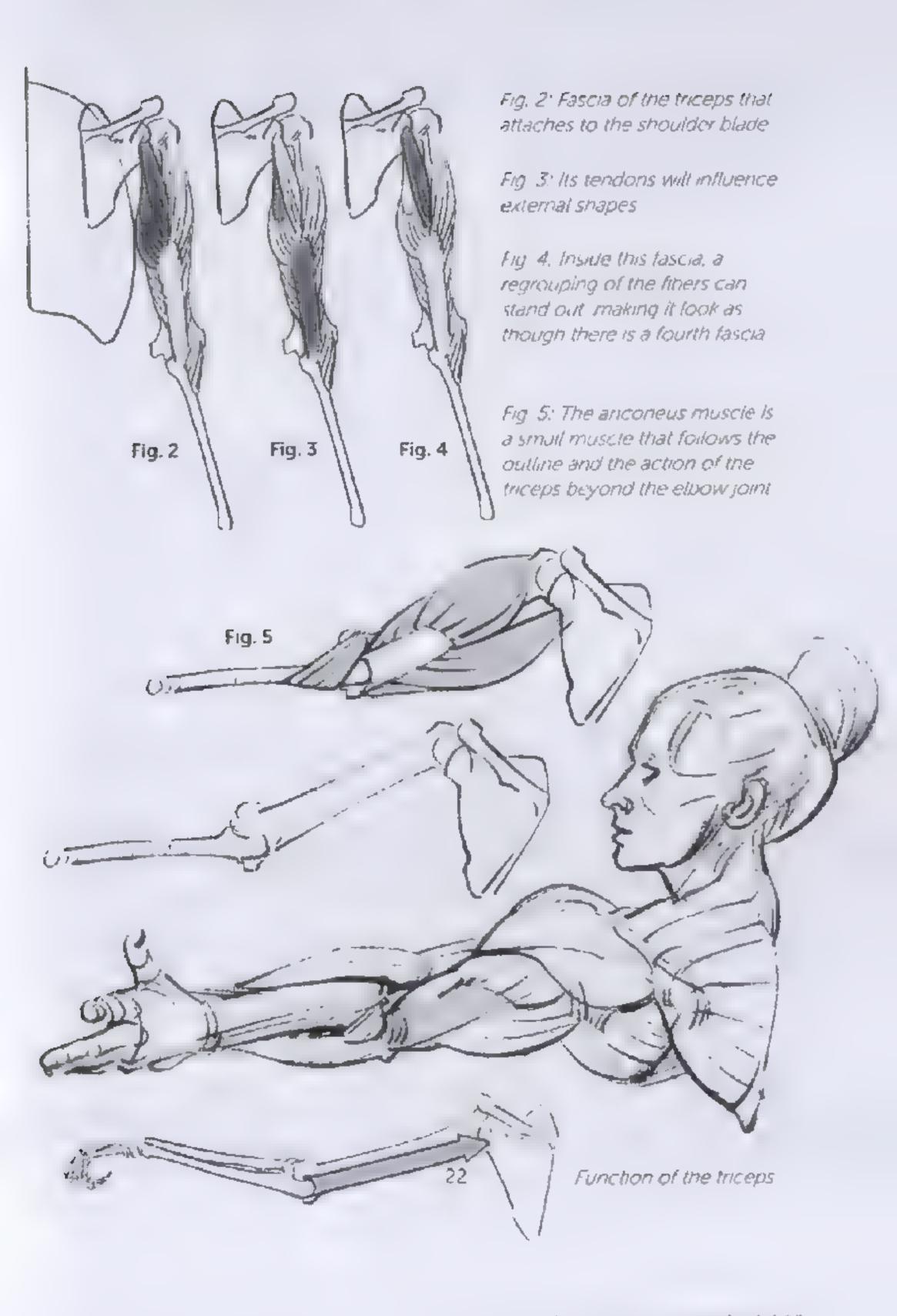
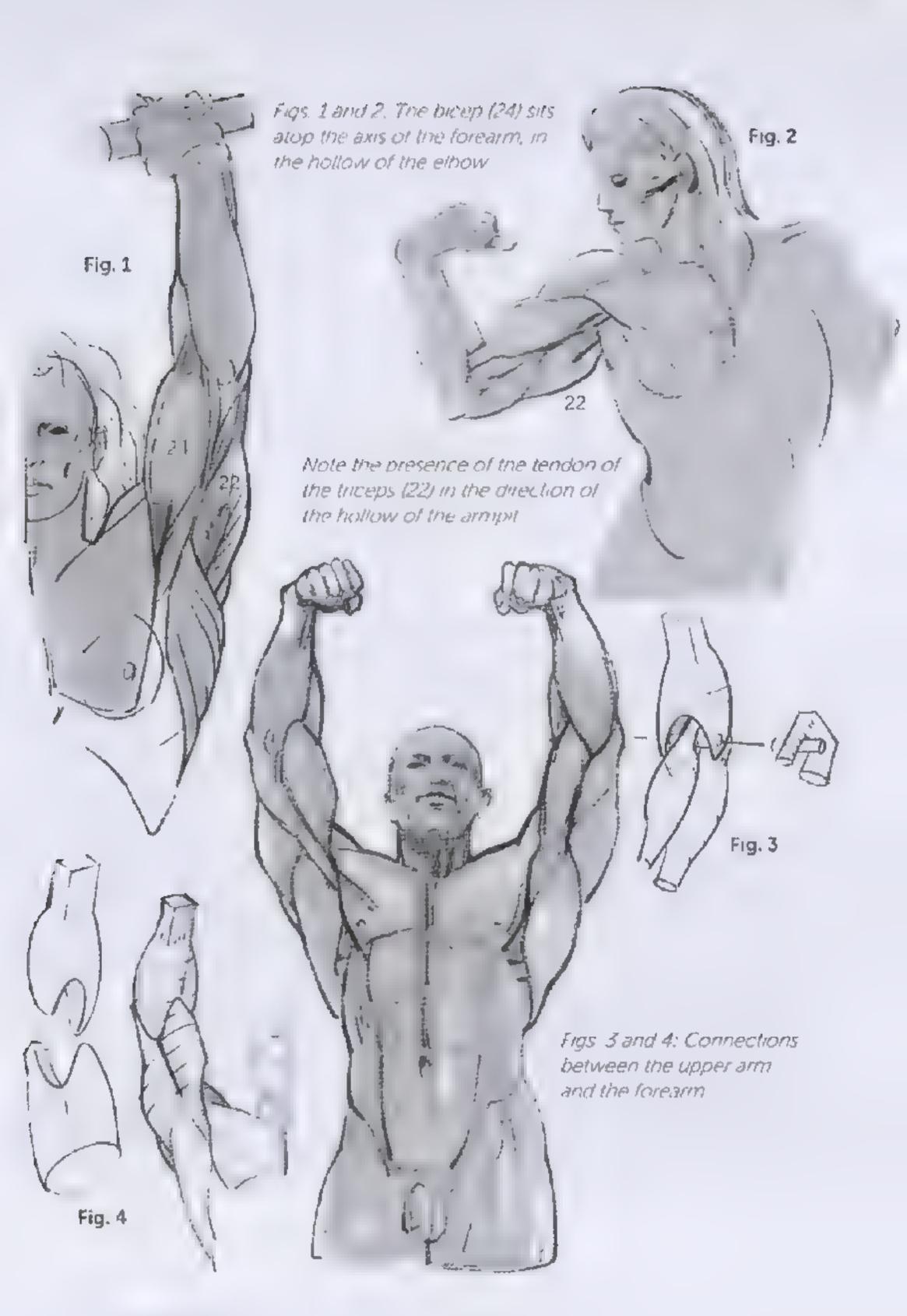


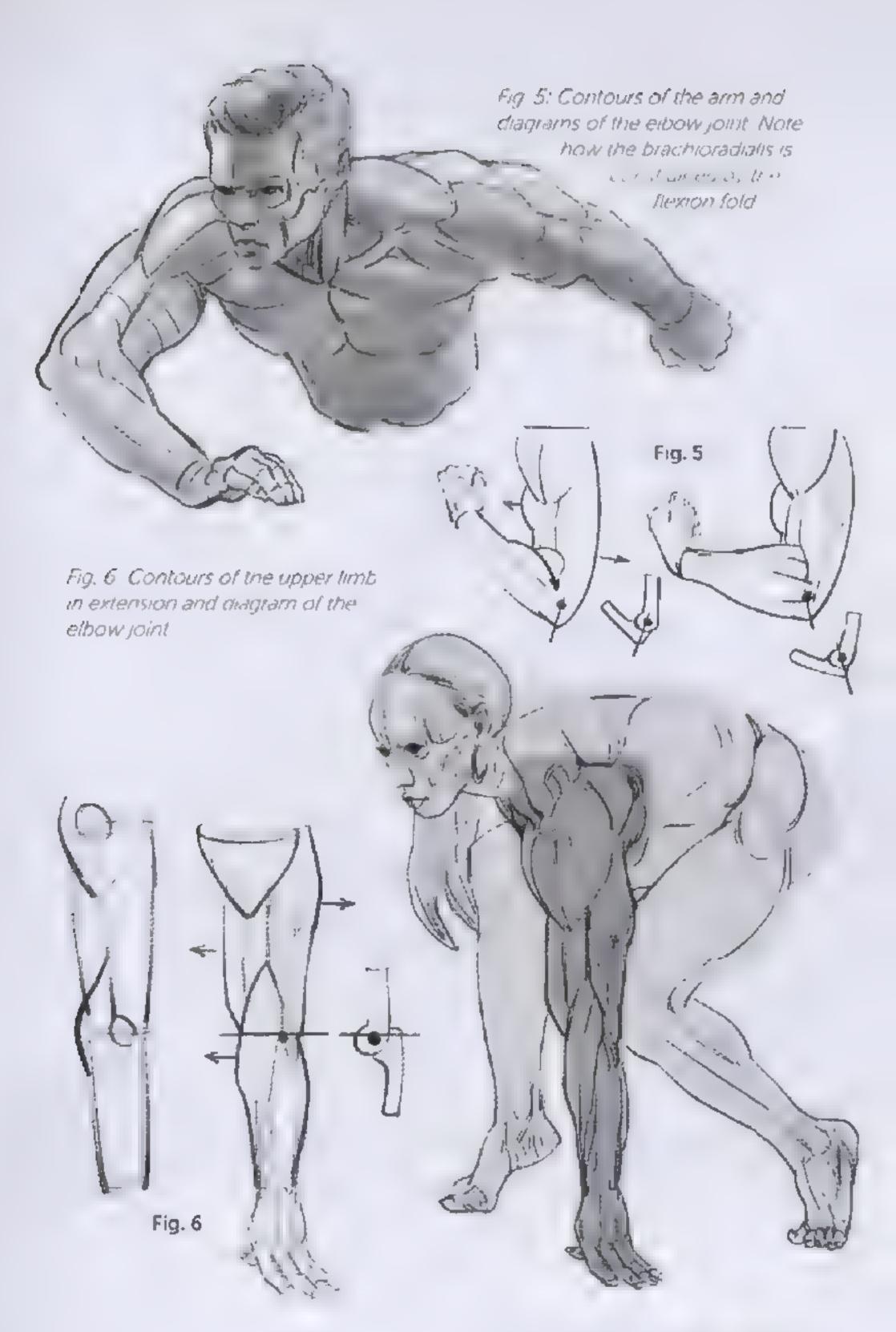
Fig. 1. The hyperdevelopment of the tricep makes it possible to see the direction of its fibers.

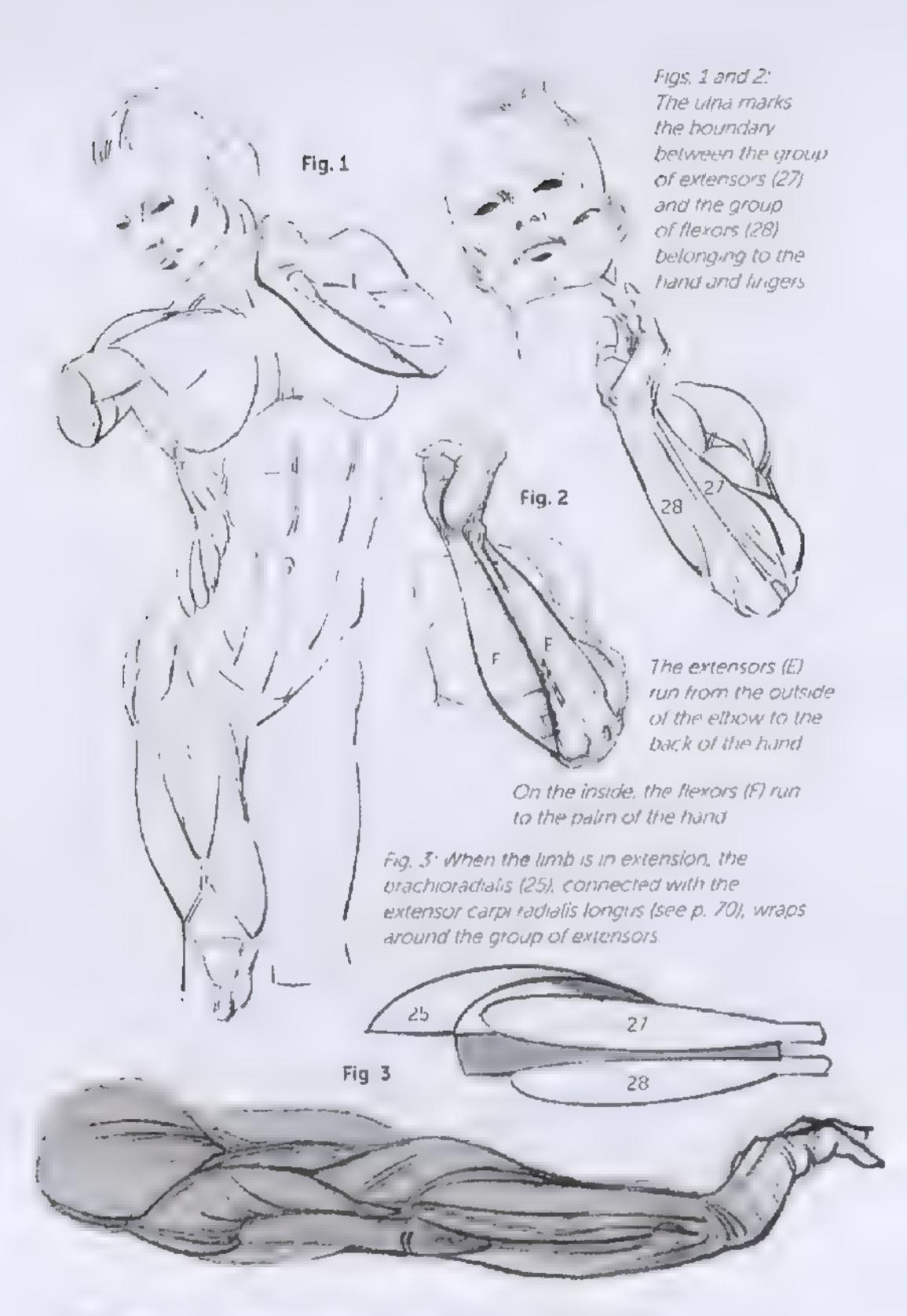
The arm appears short because of its thickened width.

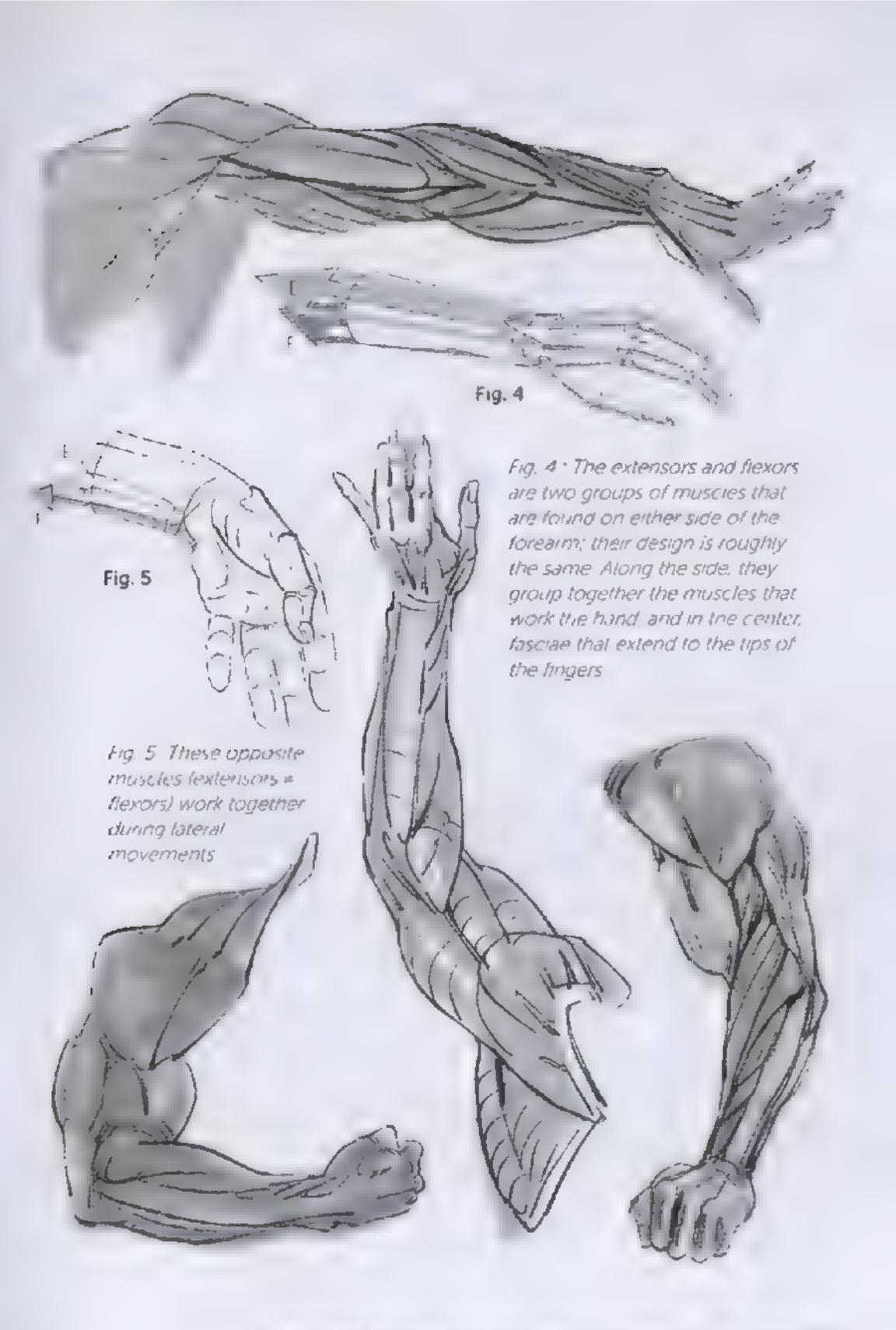


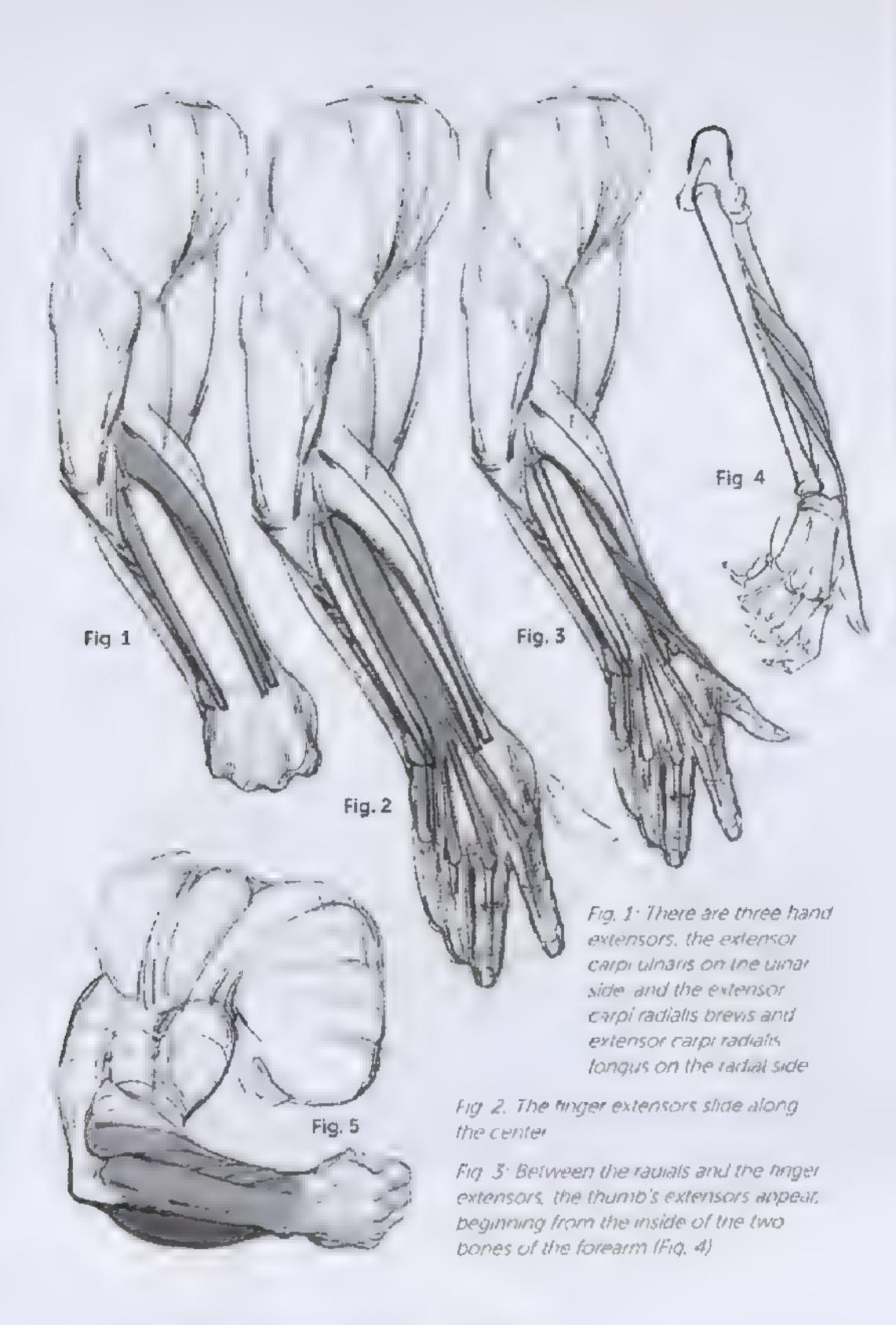


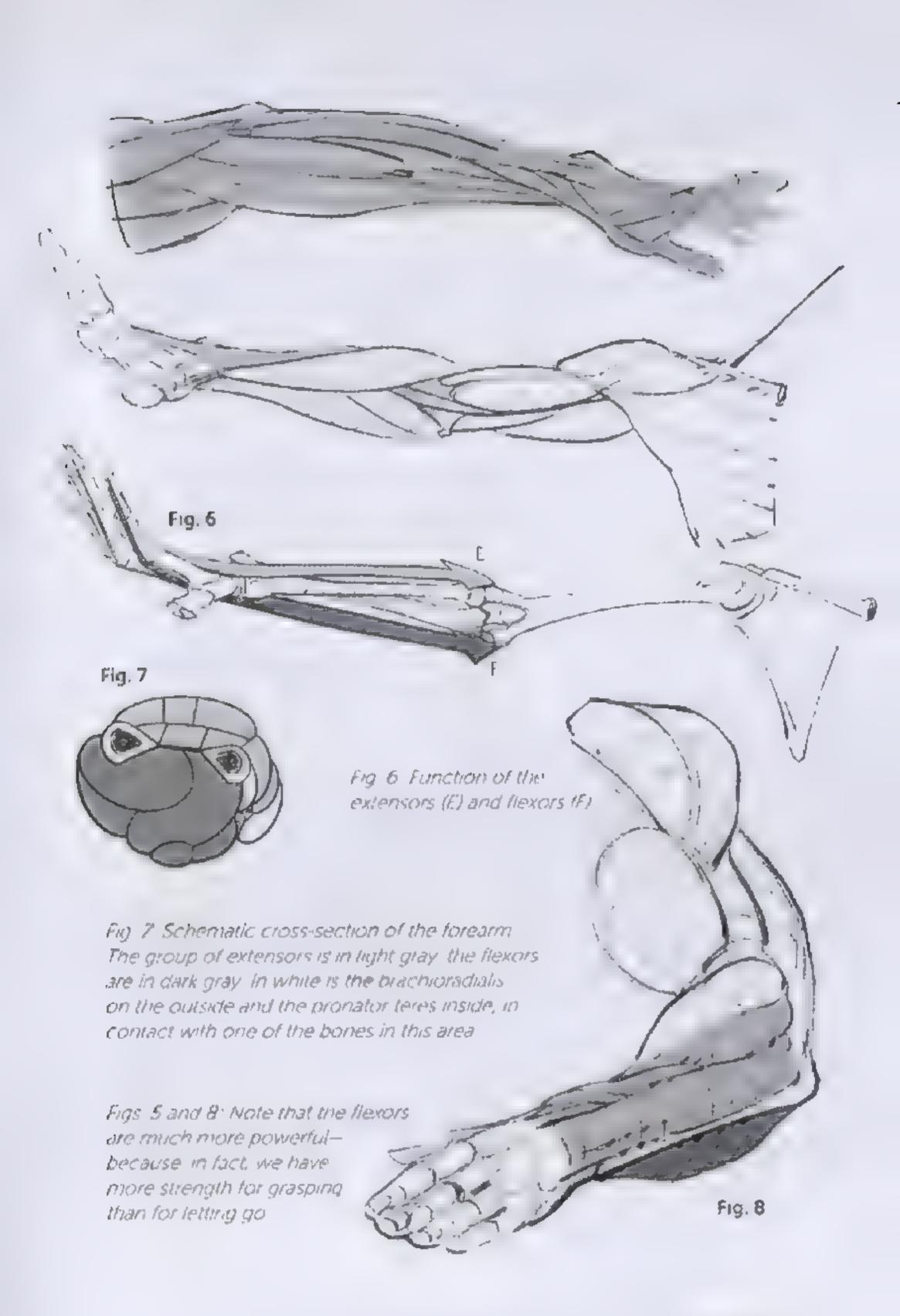


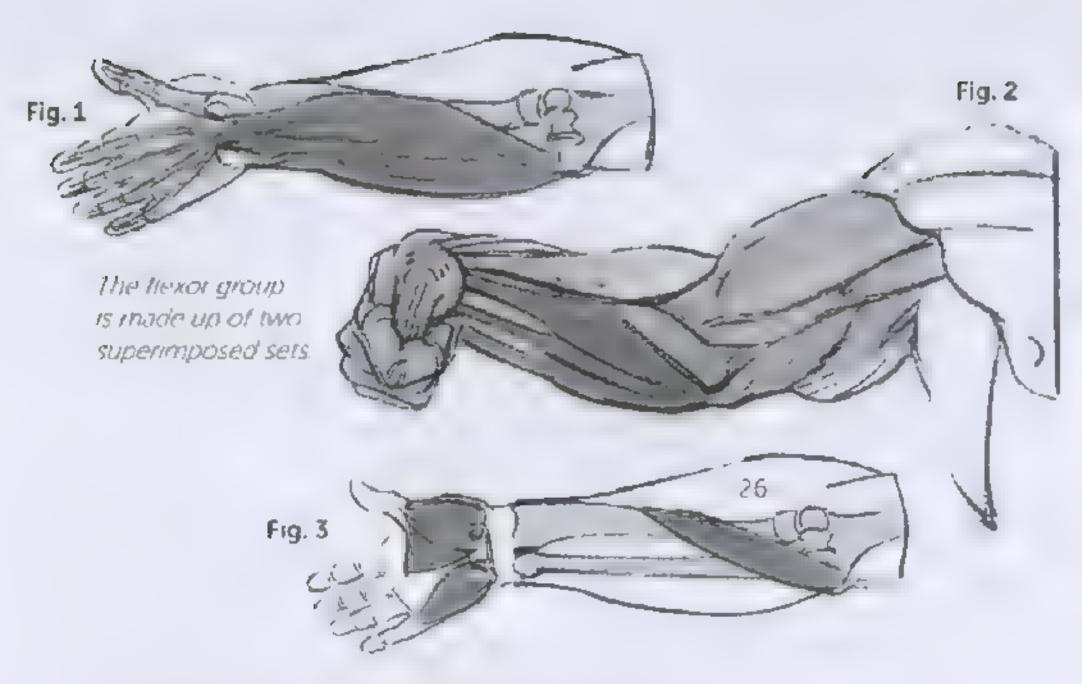




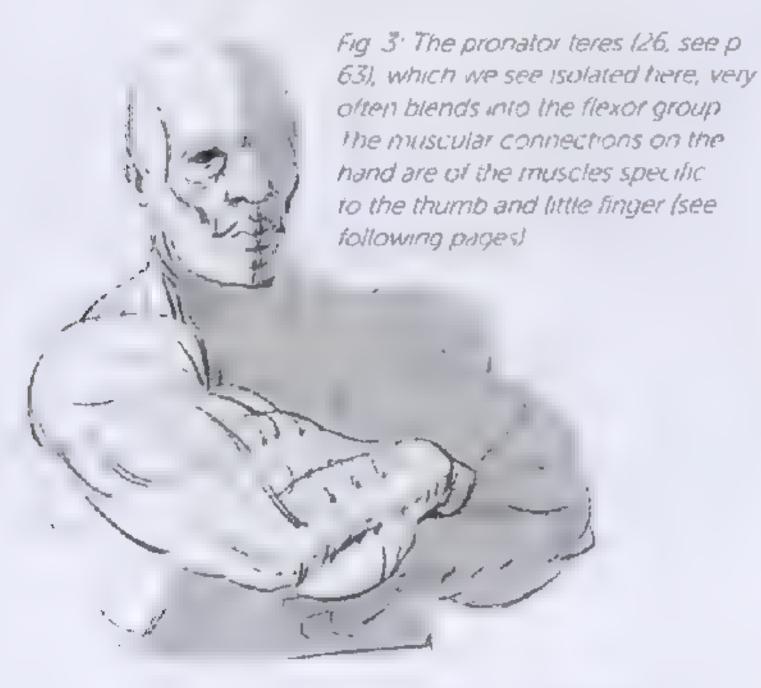




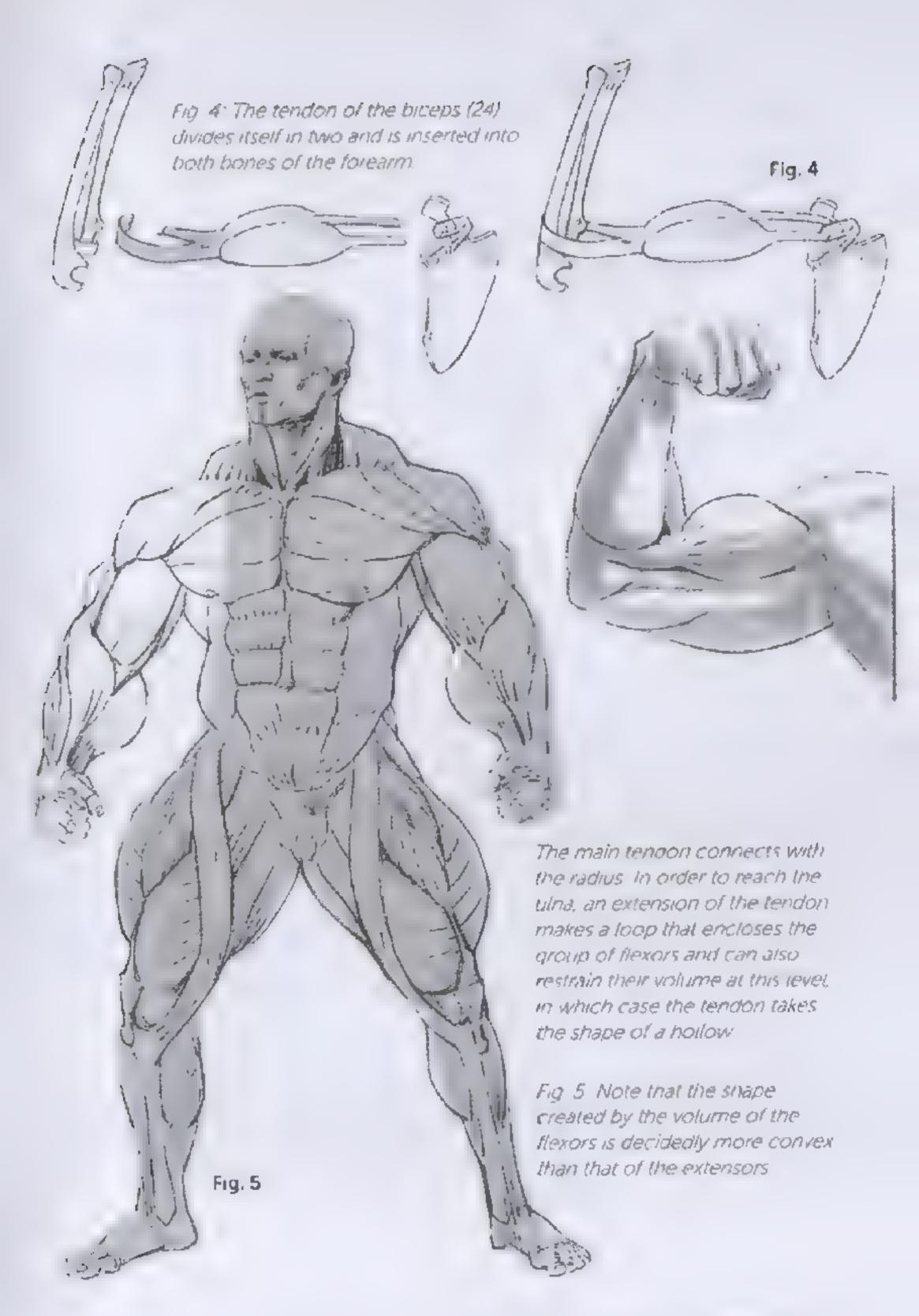


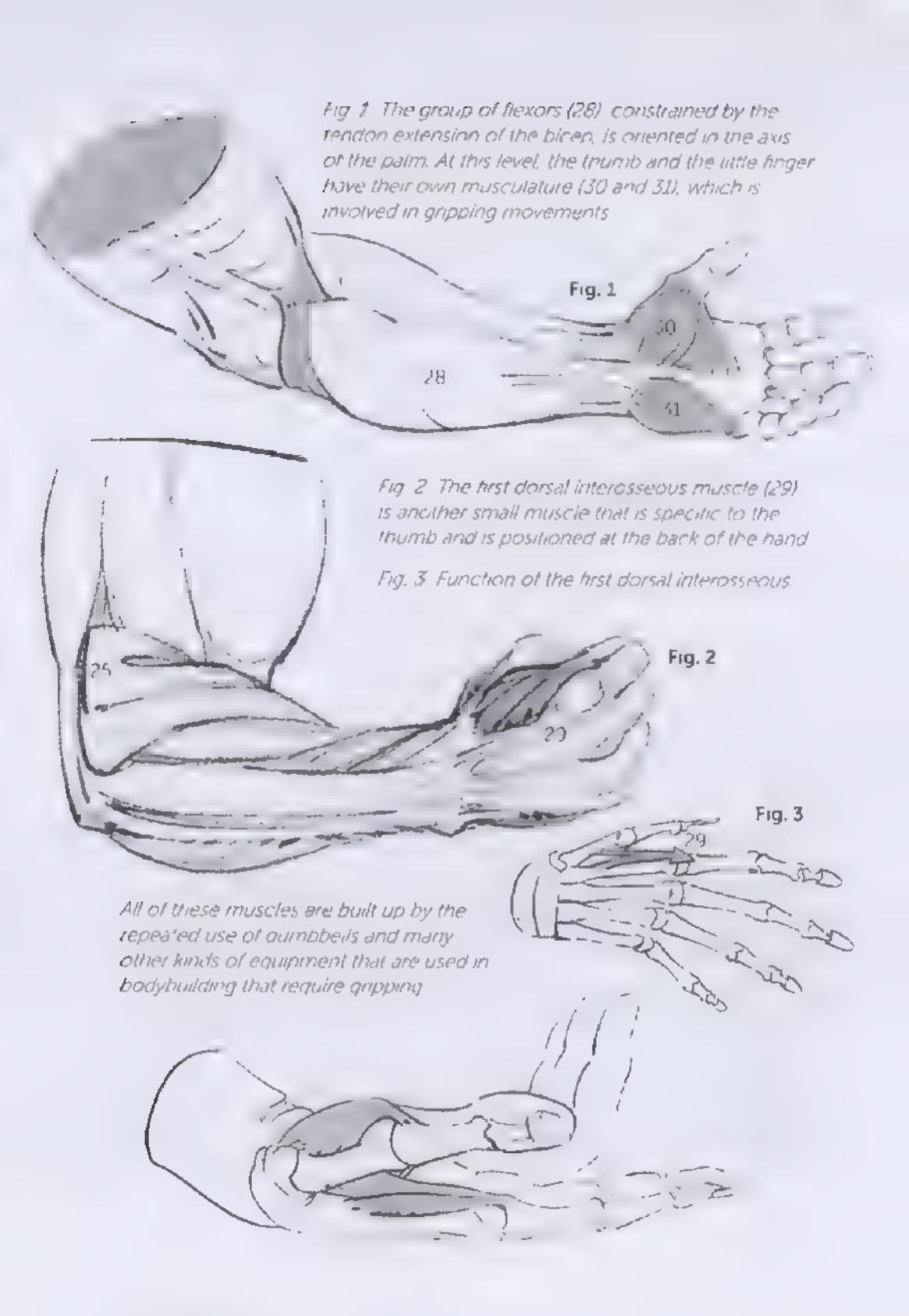


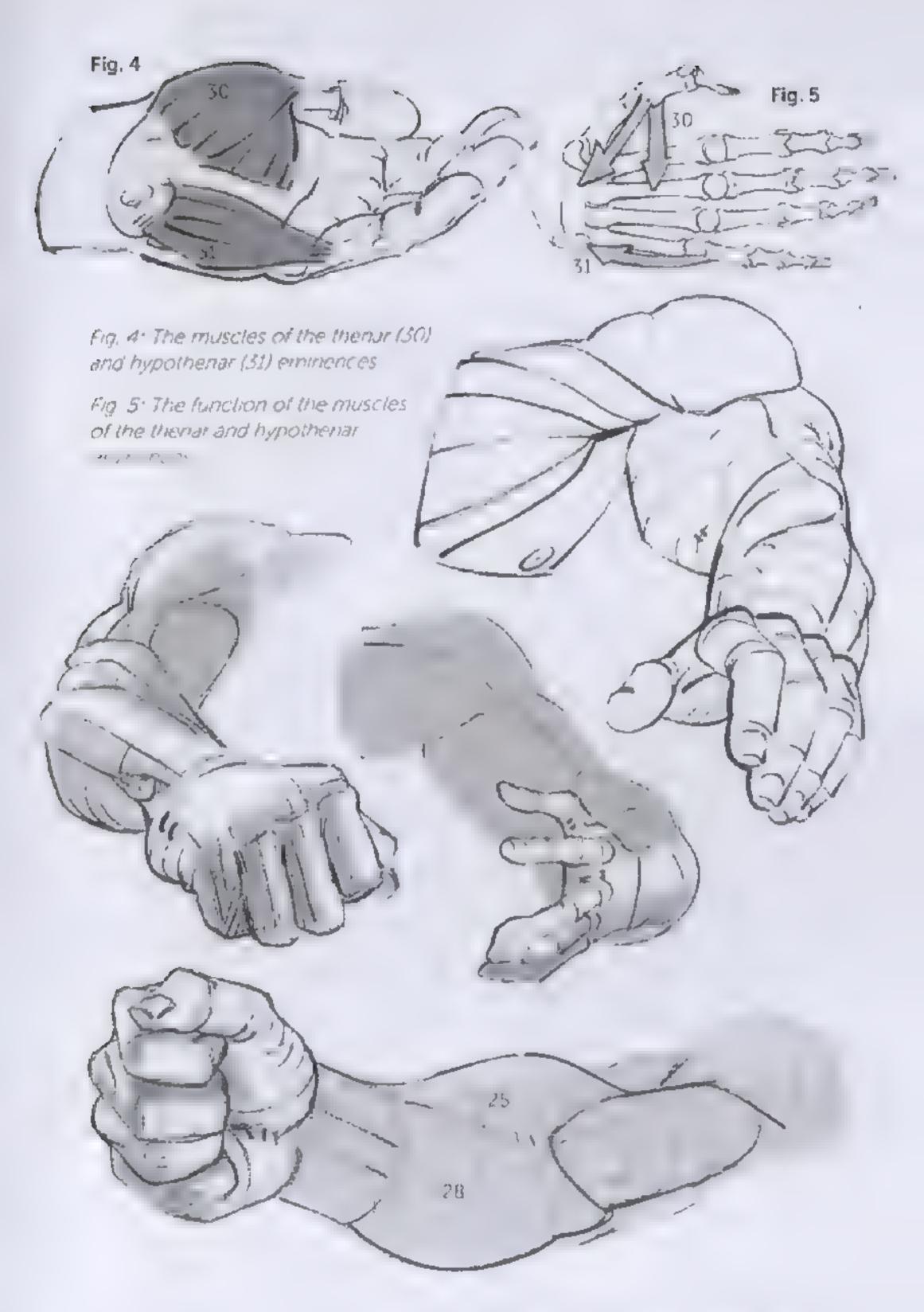
The finger flexors (Fig. 1, deeper layer) are covered by the hand flexors (Fig. 2, outer layer), which take the shape of powerful tendons. From top to bottom, these are: the flexor carpi radialis, the palmans longus (it is in the center and connects to the fibrous lissue in the palm, according to Paul Richer, it is missing in about 1 in 8 people), and the flexor carpi ulnans.





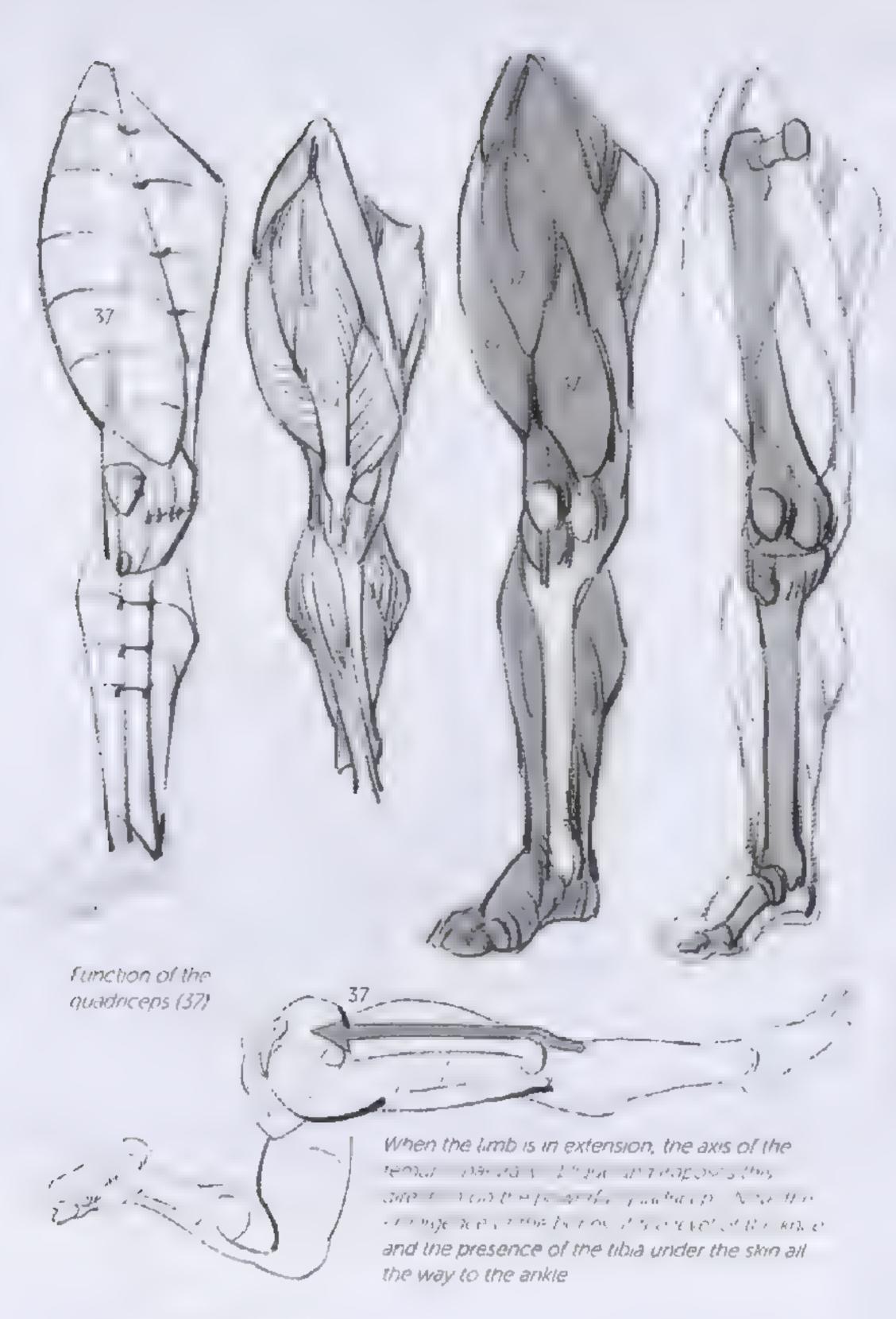


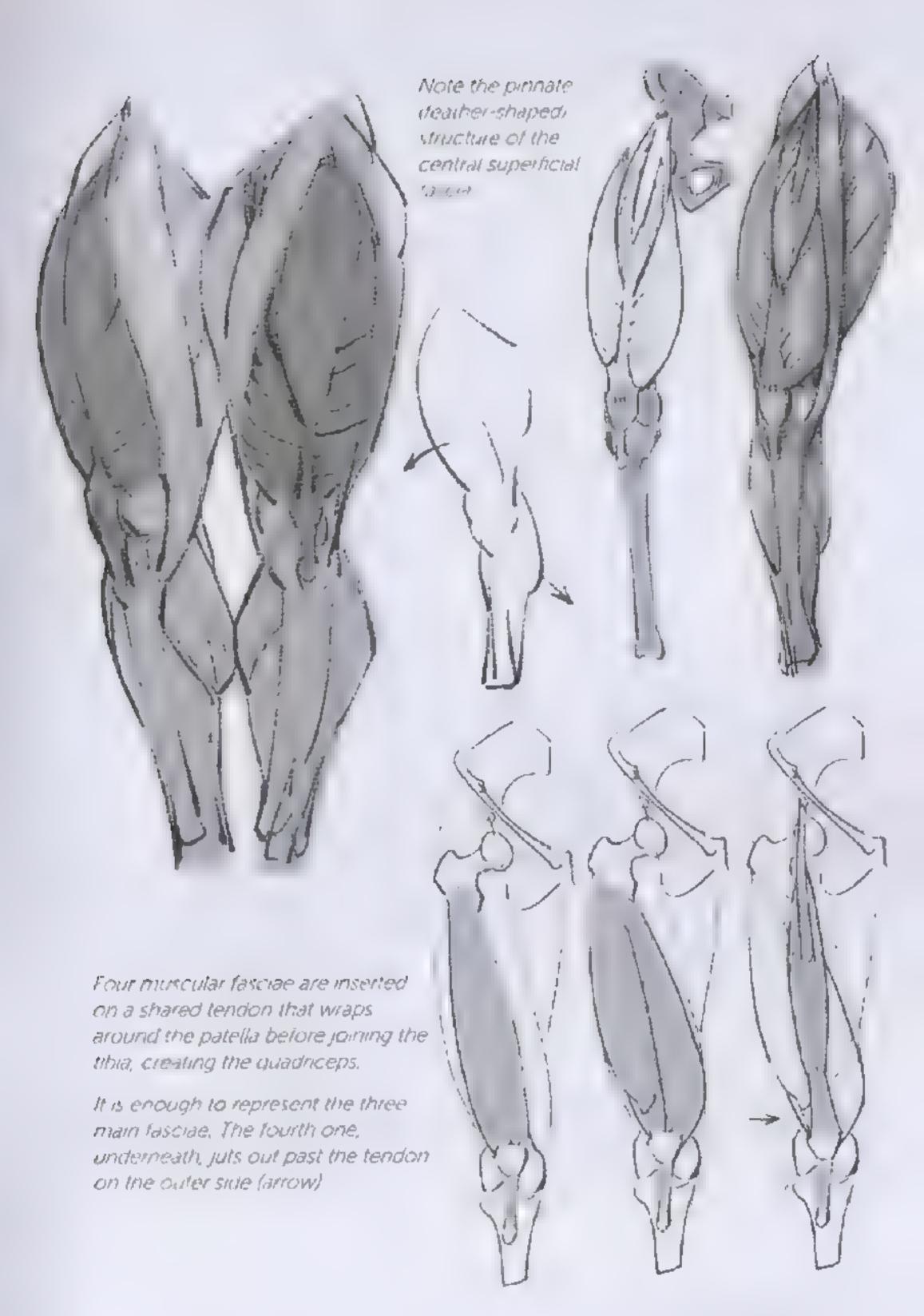


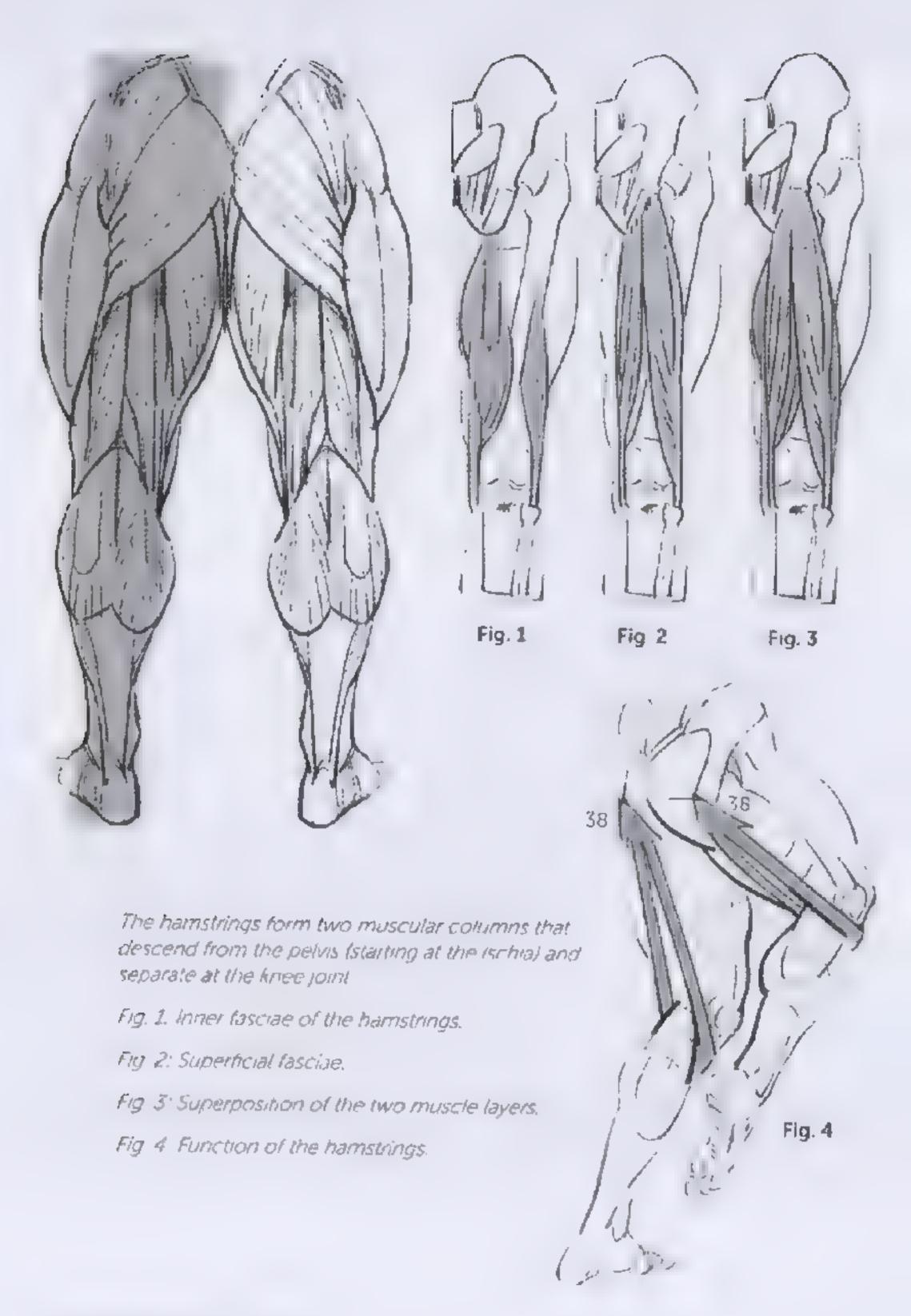


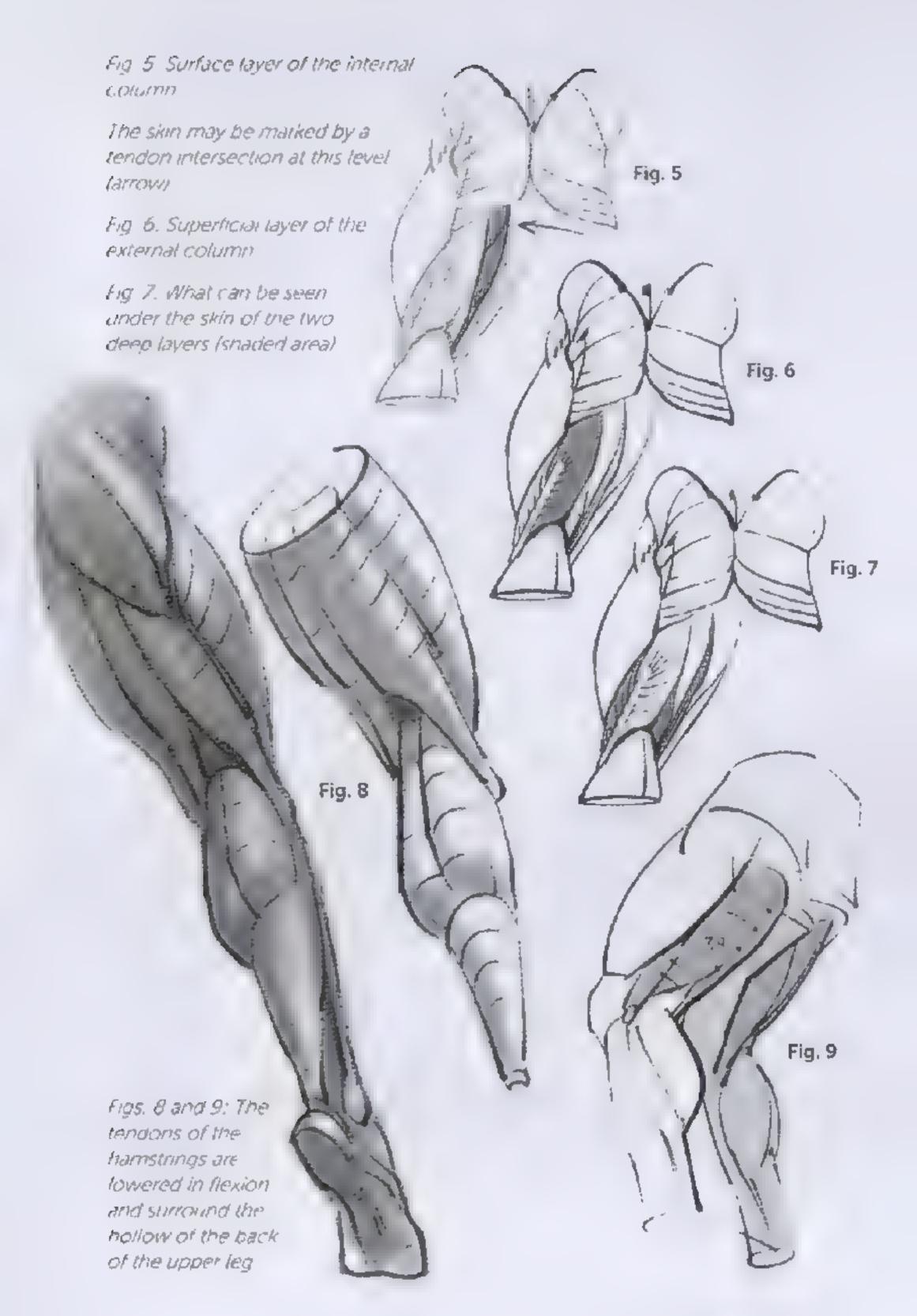


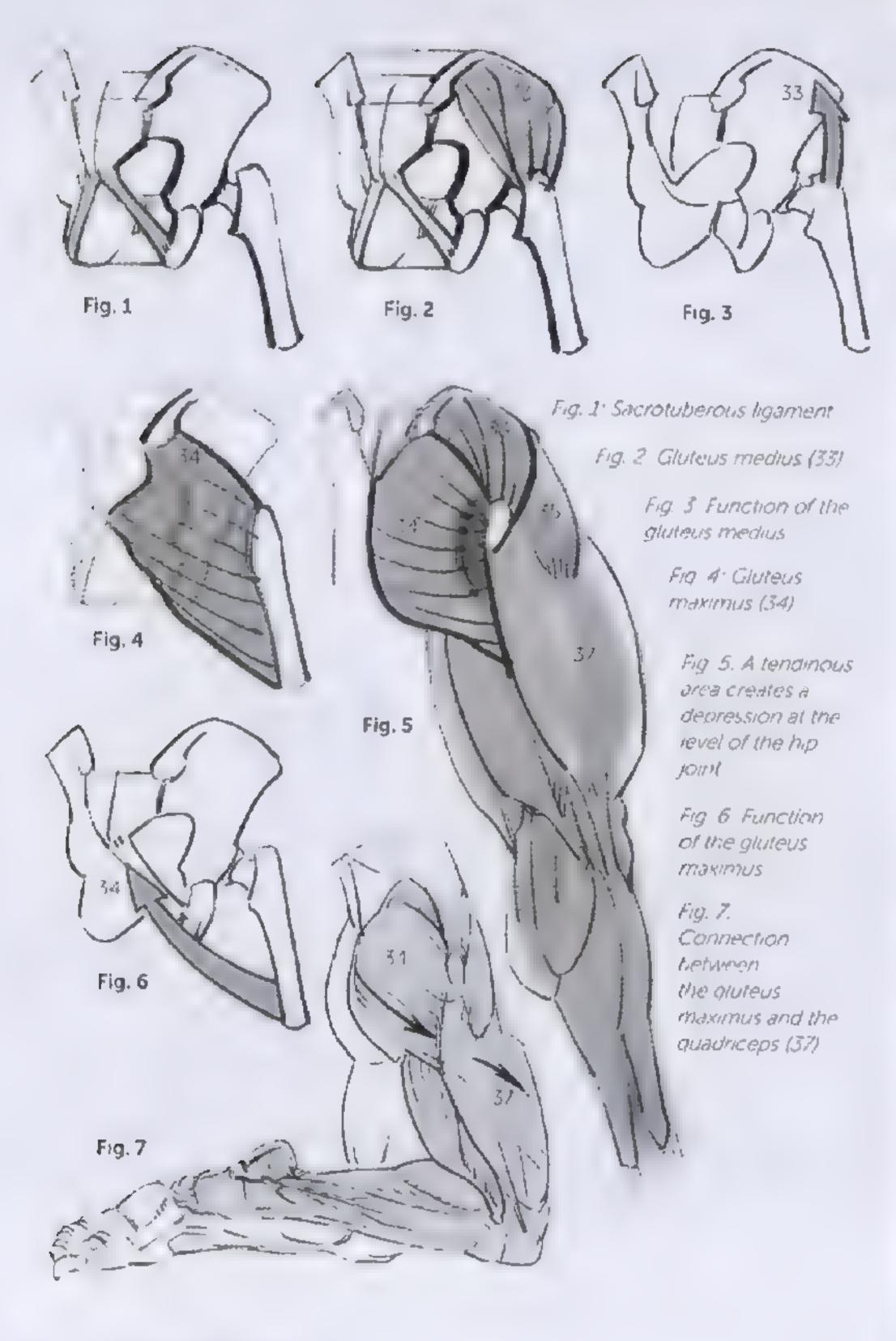
## lower limb

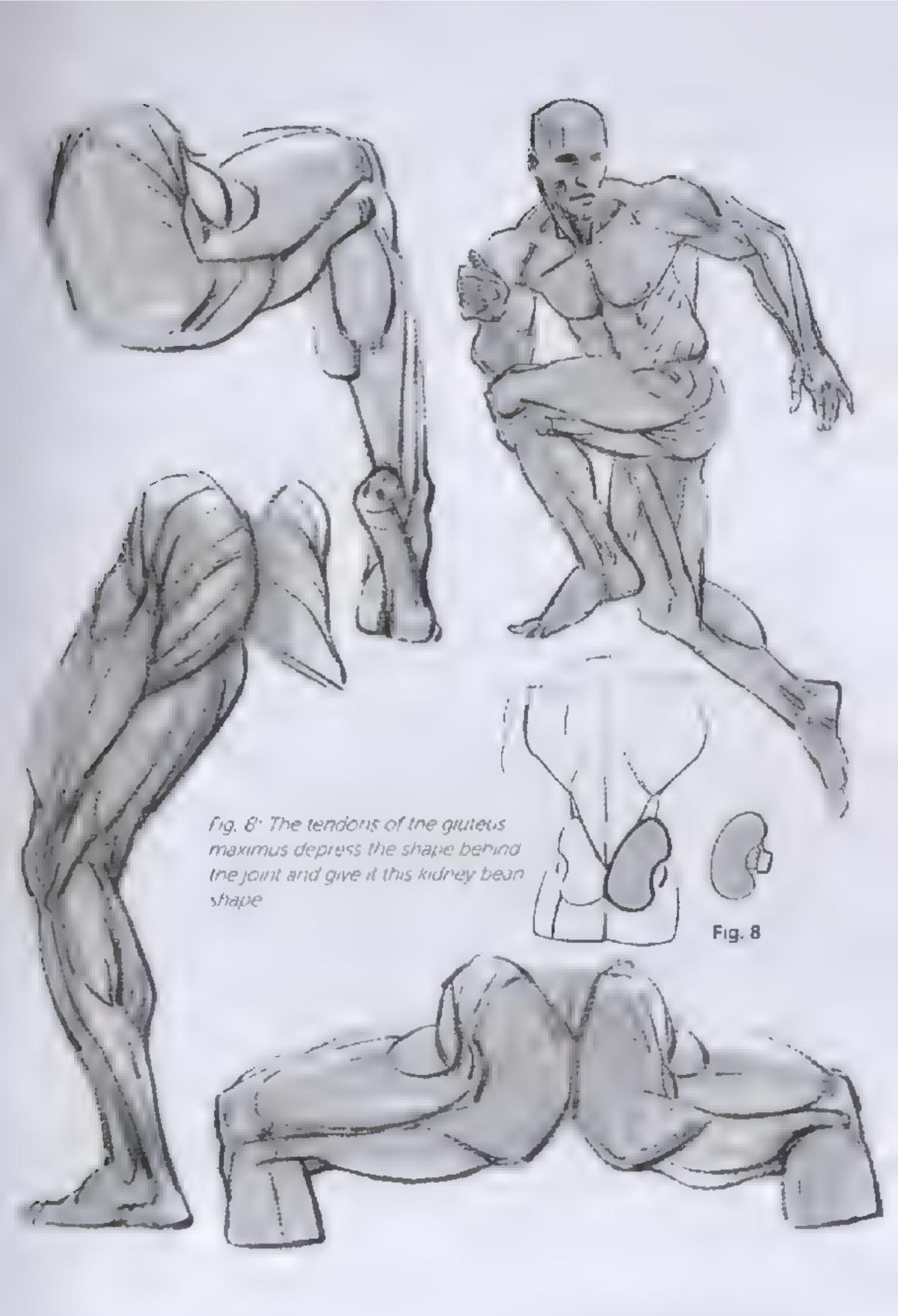


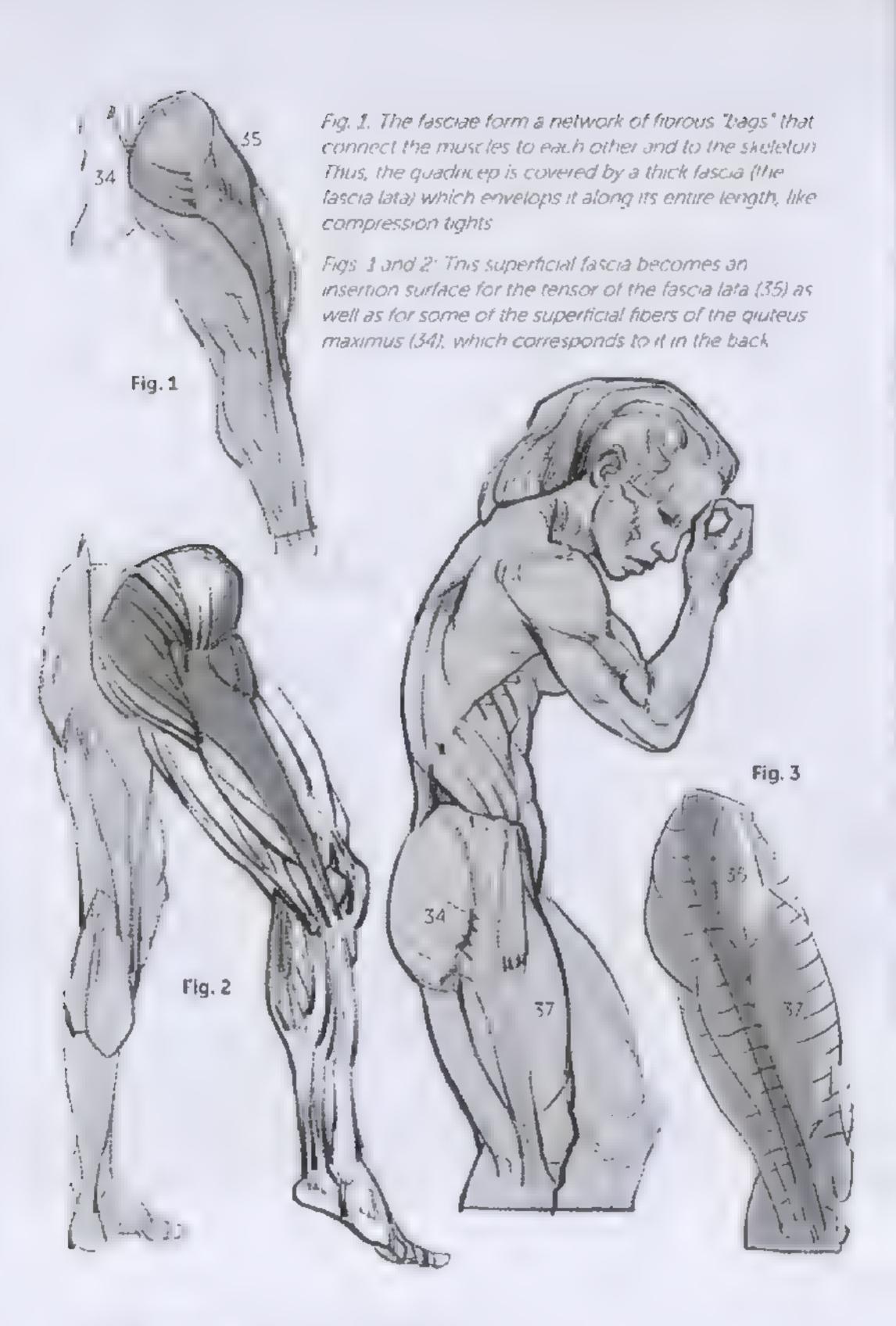


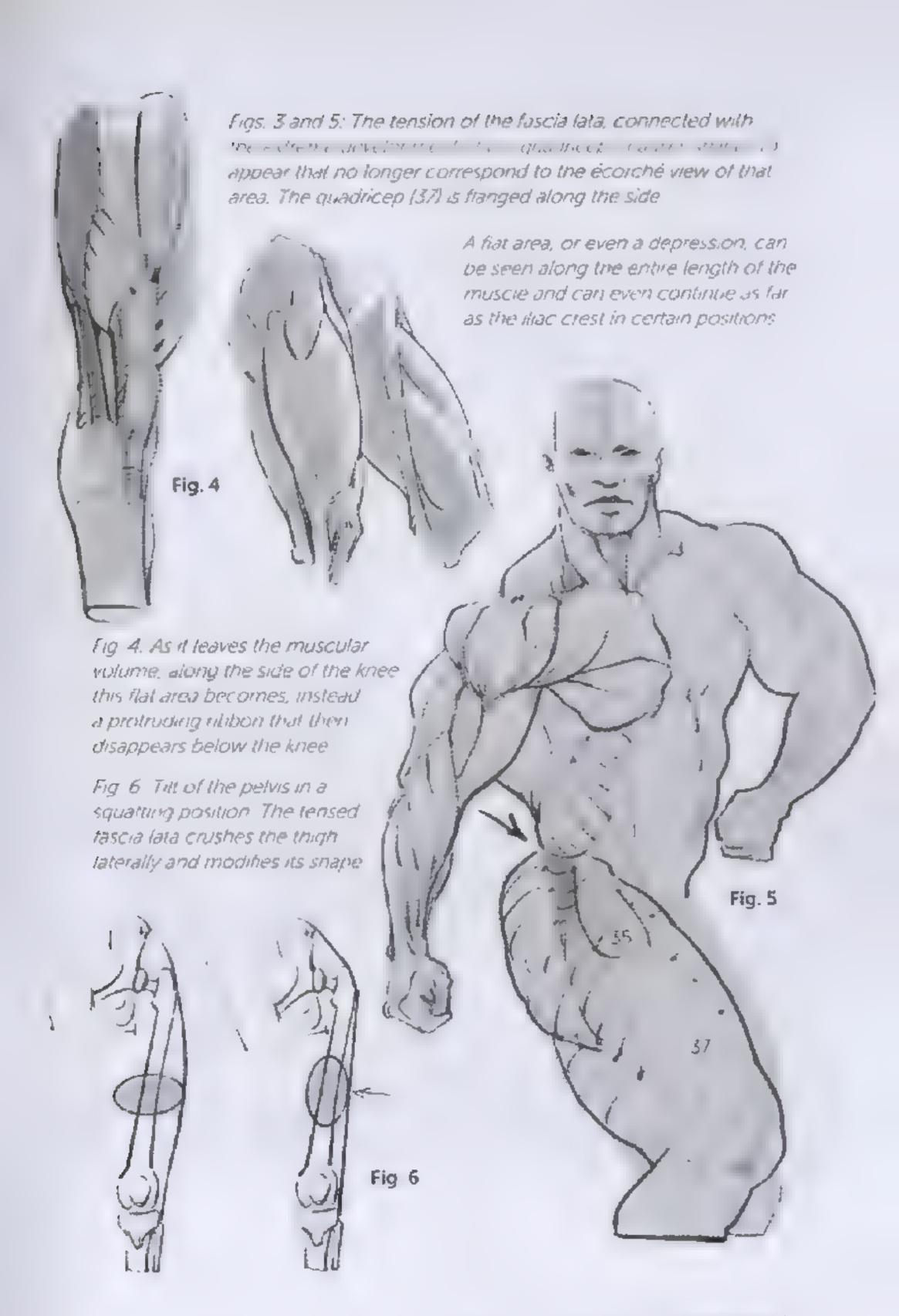


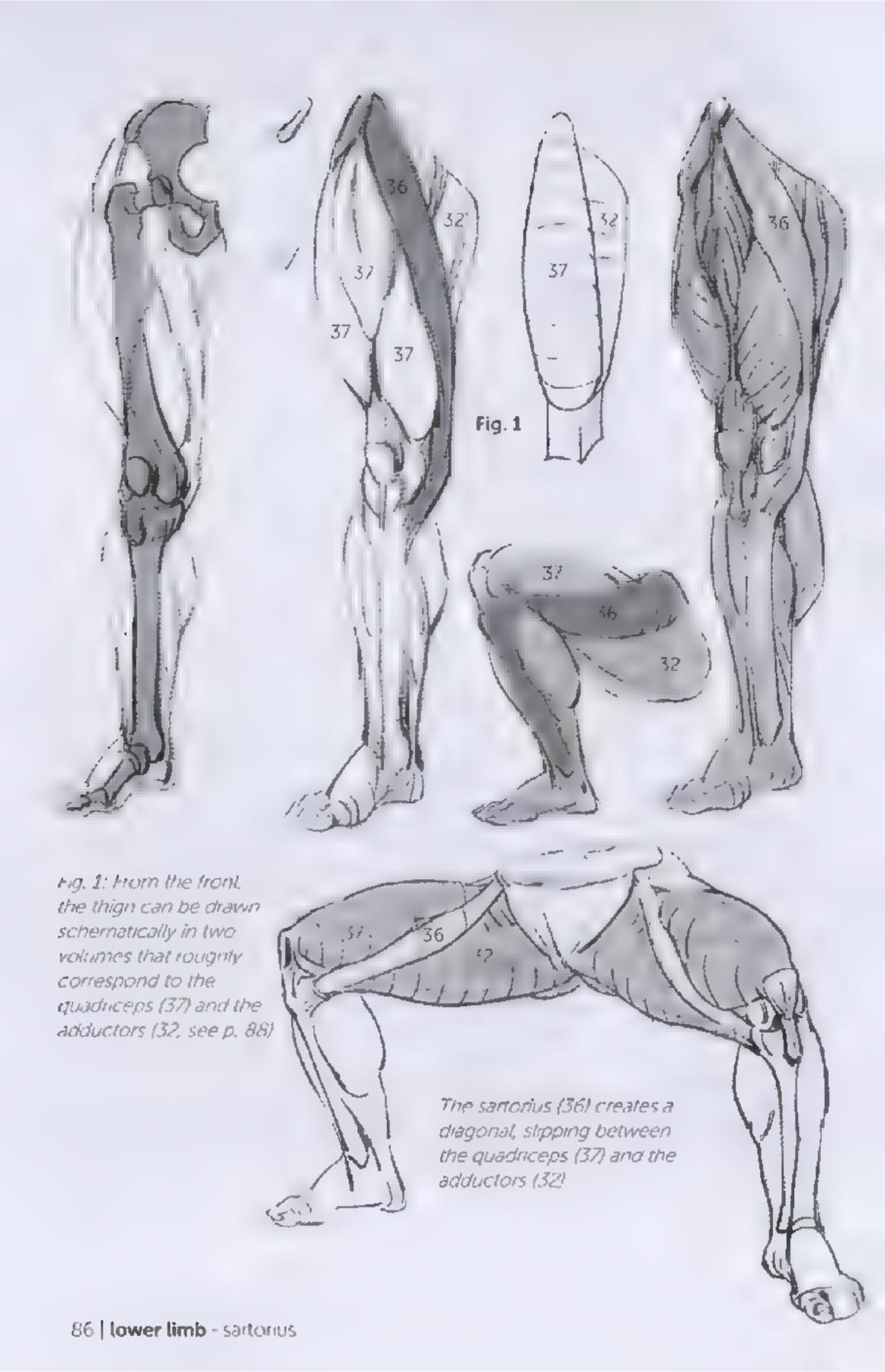


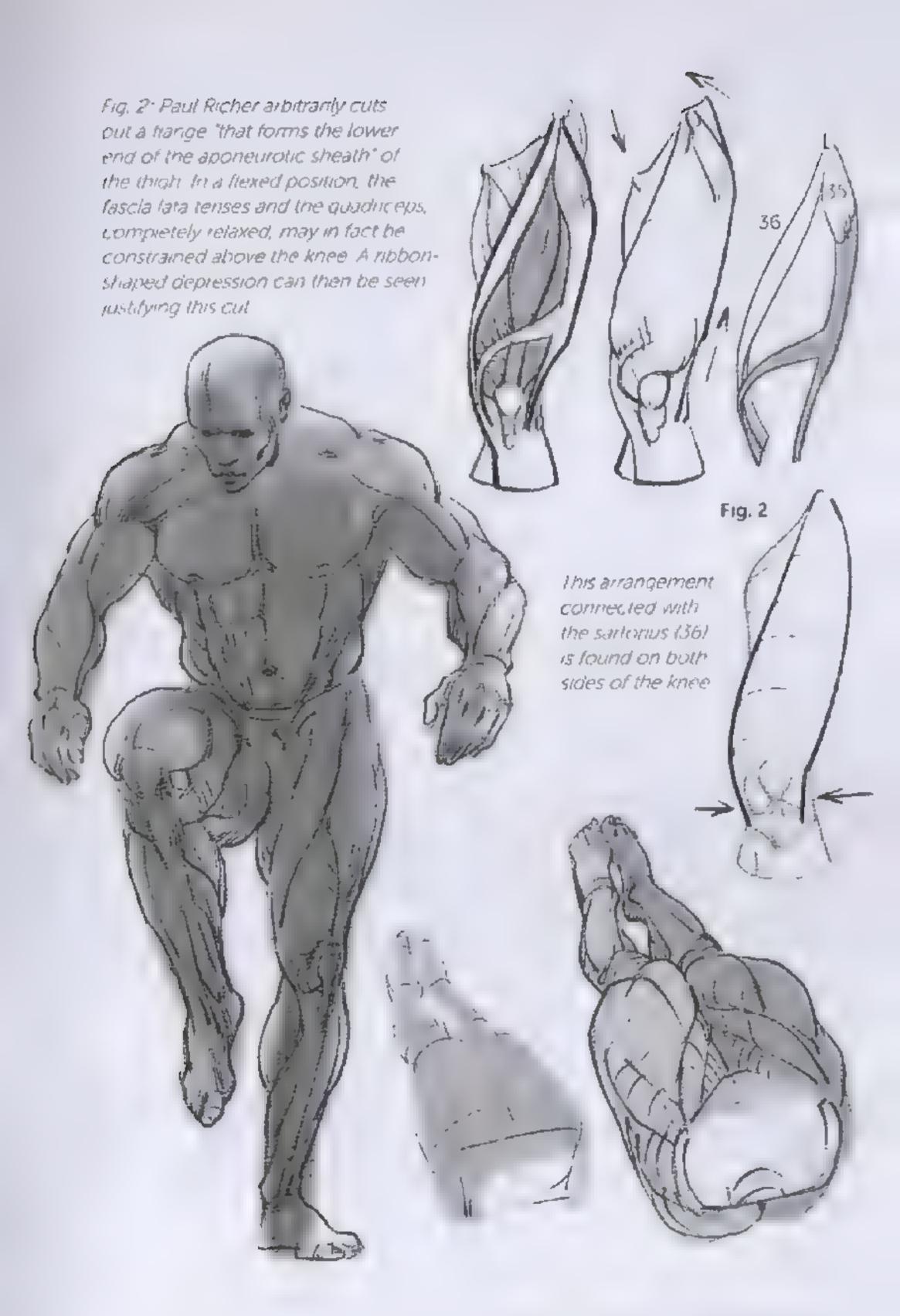


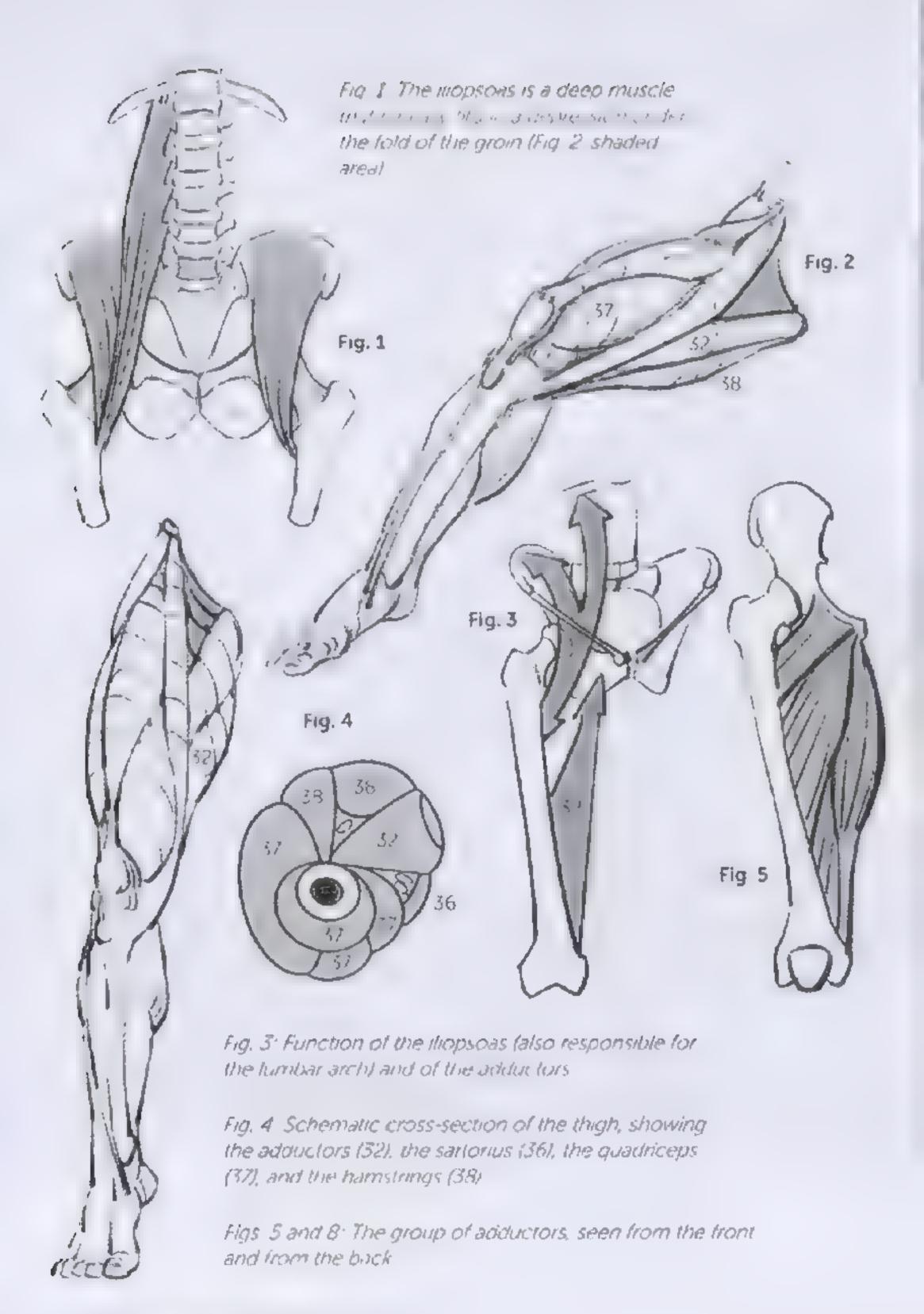


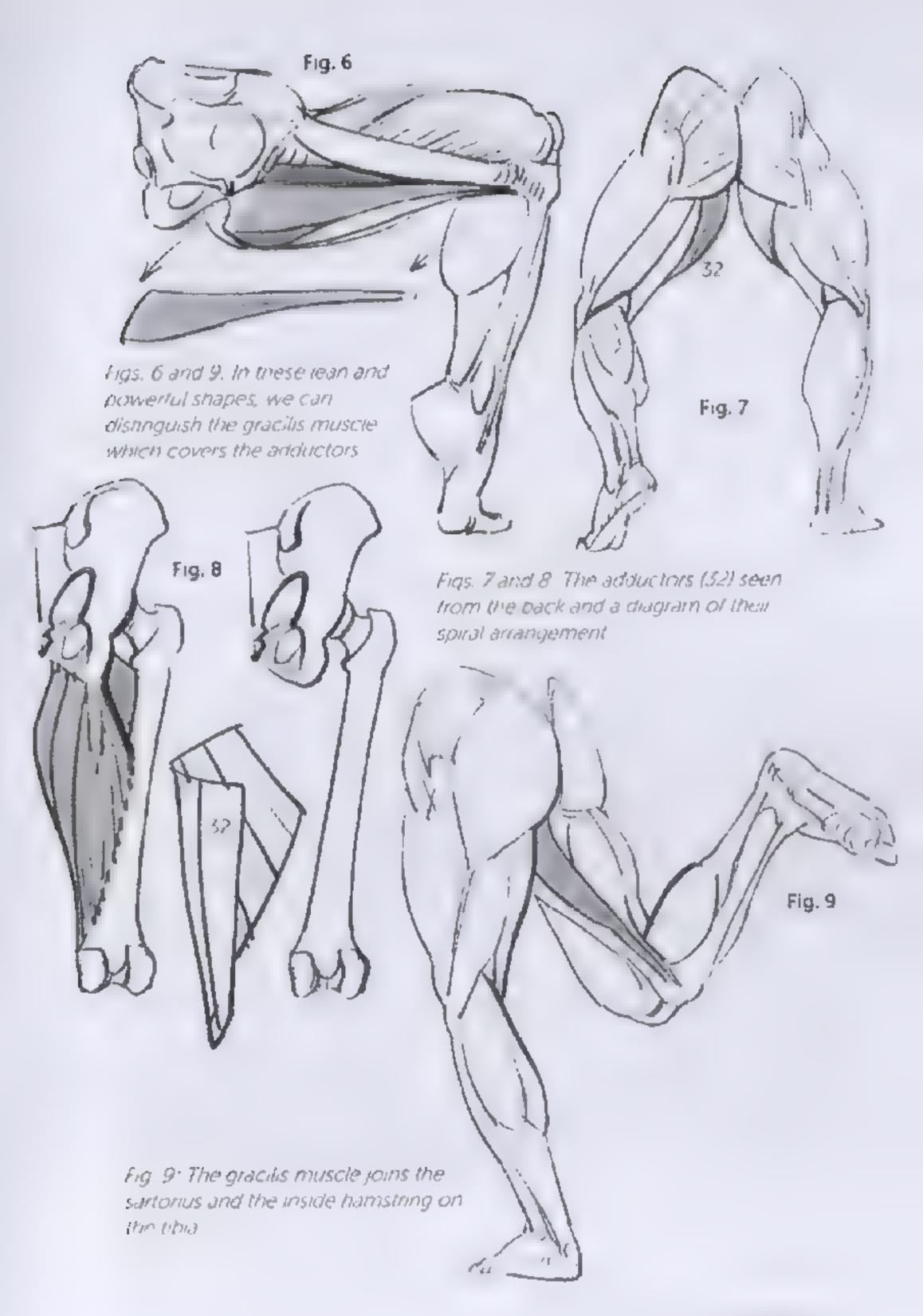


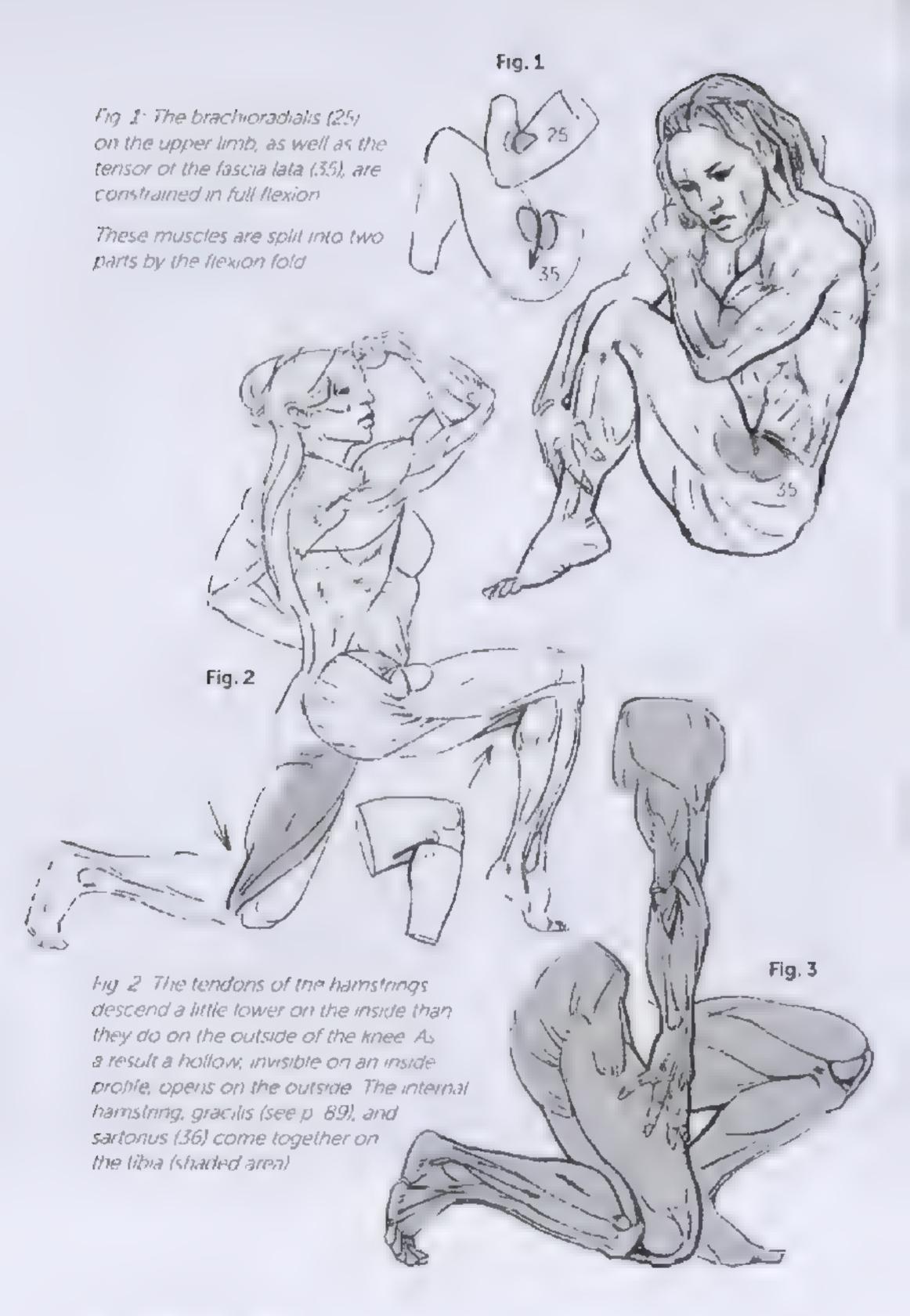


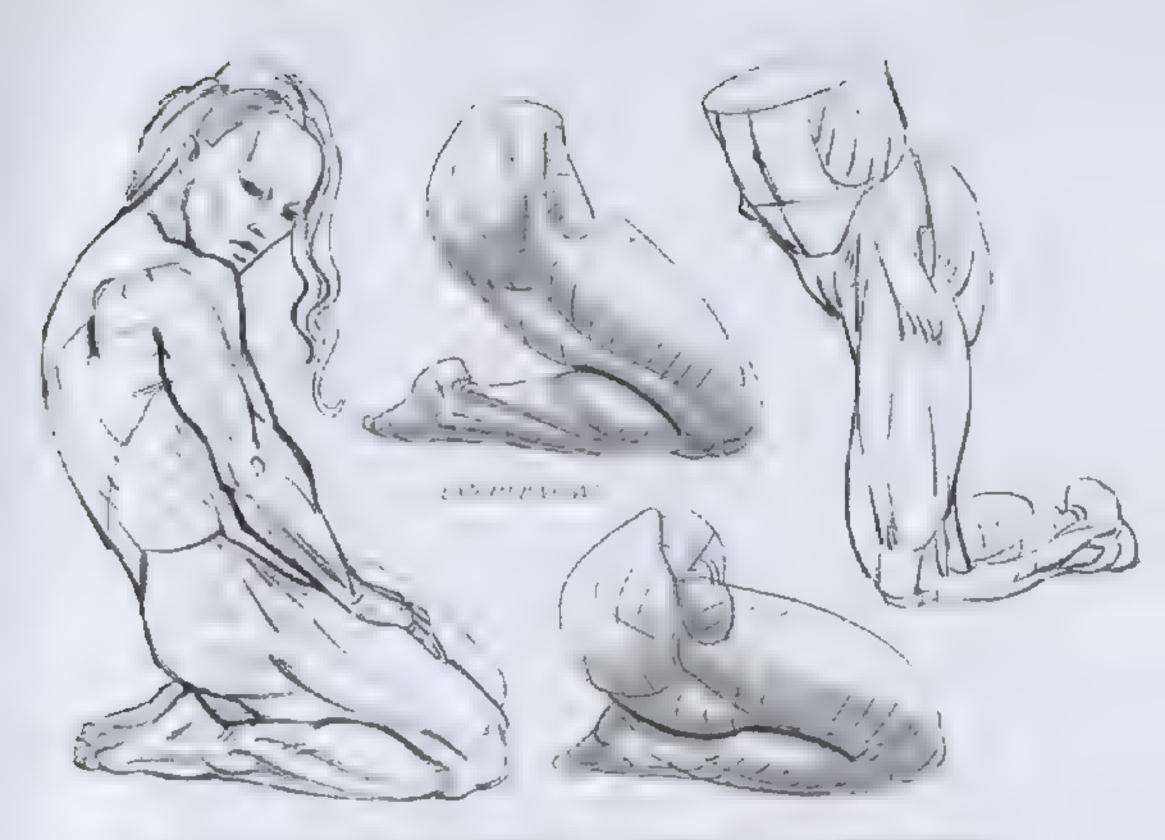




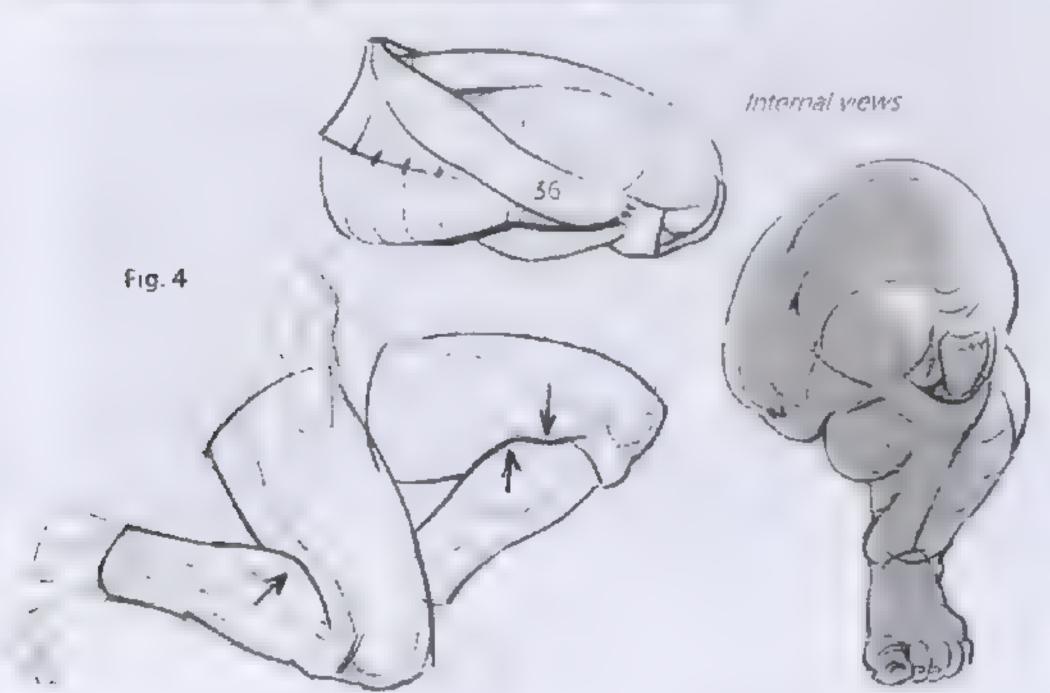


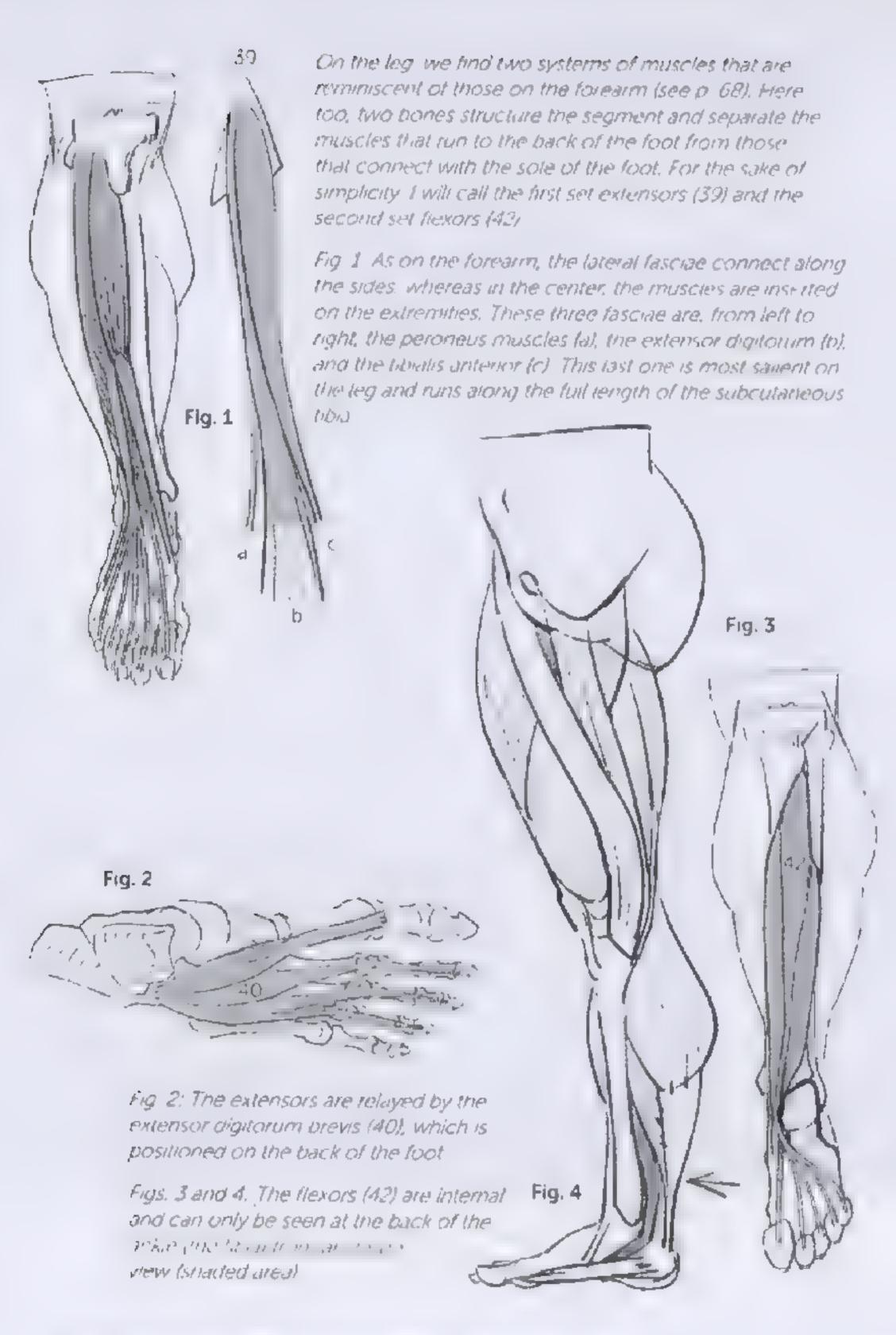


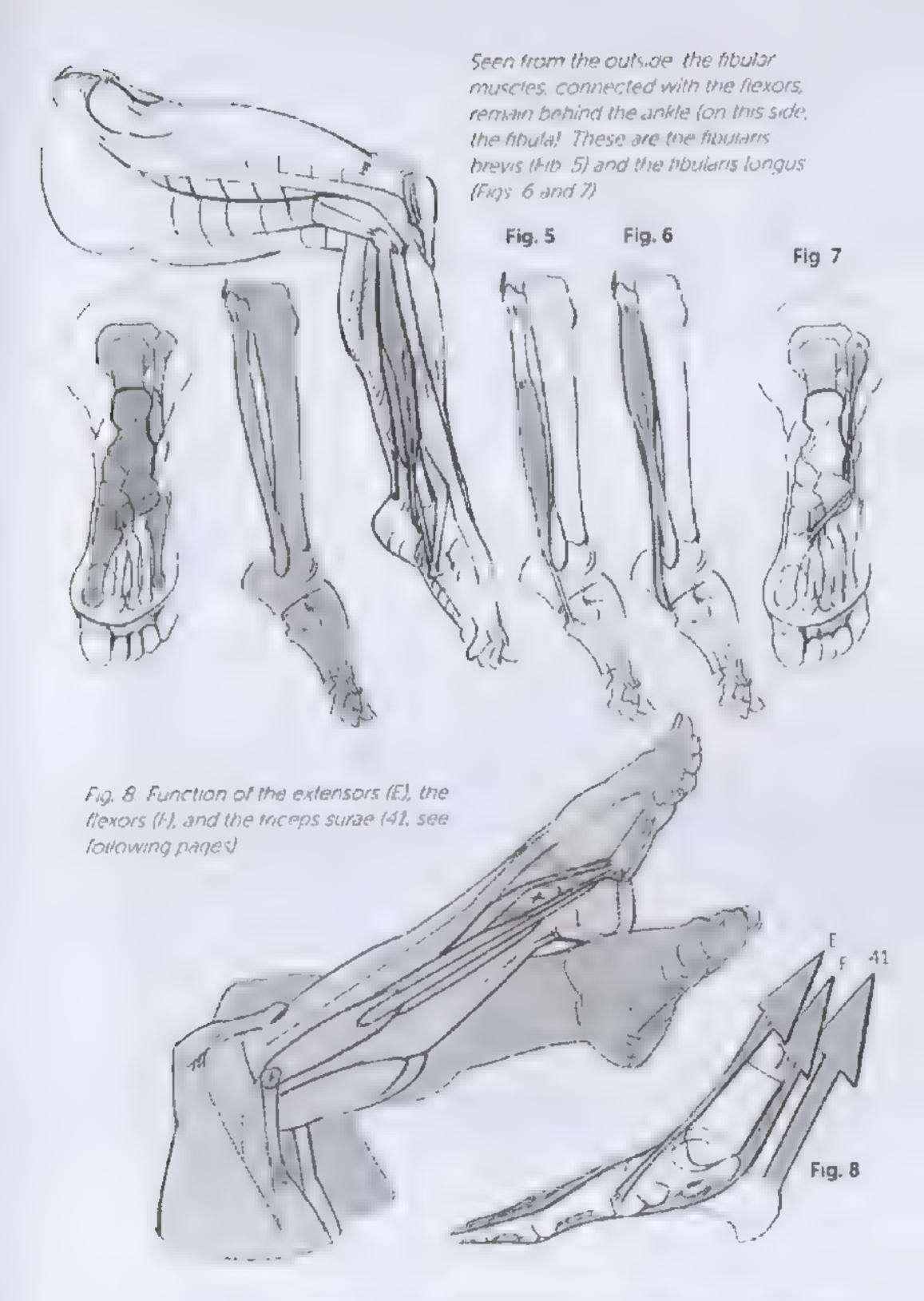


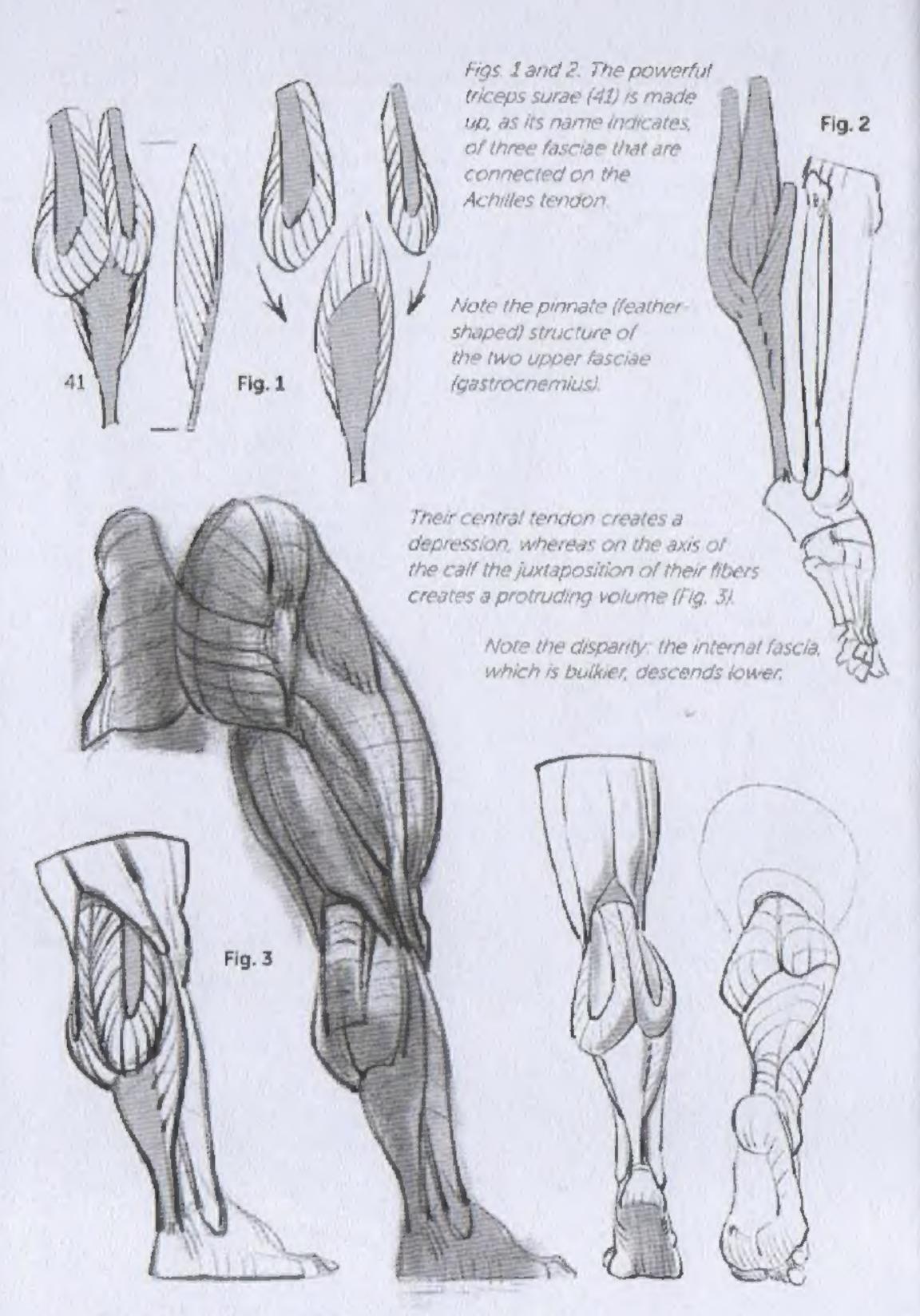


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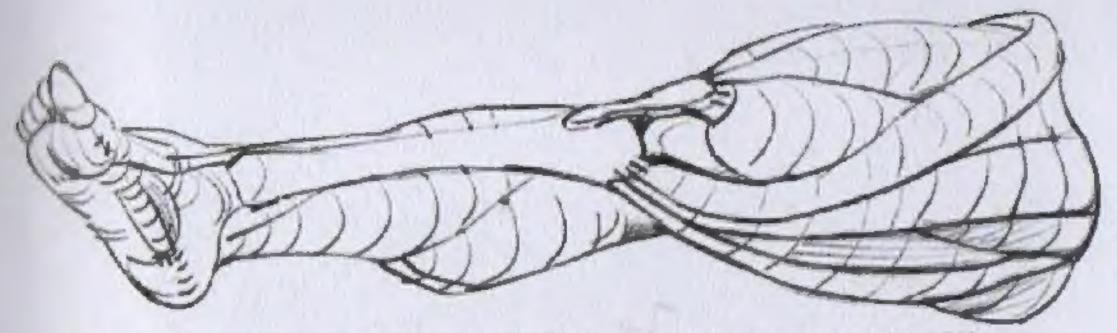
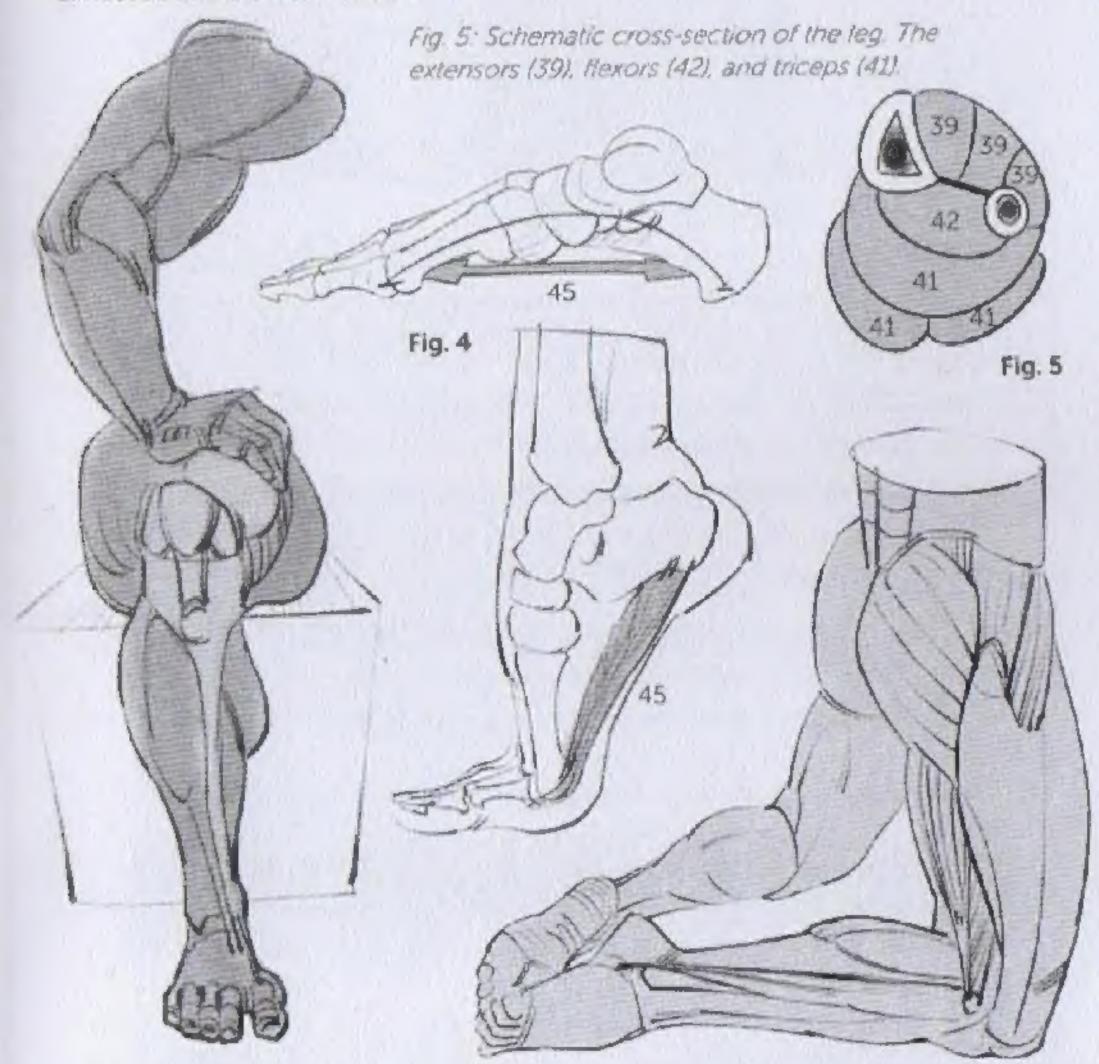
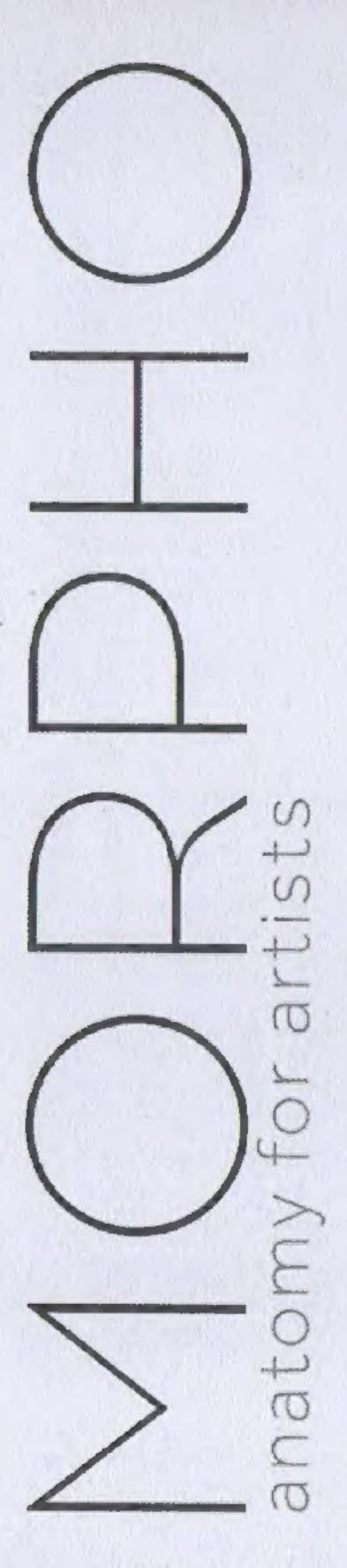


Fig. 4. On the foot, we have already seen the extensor digitorum brevis (p. 92); we still have to position the abductor hallucis (the abductor of the big toe) (45), which tenses the arch of the foot. The fat under the skin of the foot masks almost all of the other muscles.





## Muscled bodies

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